

Housing Team to Issue Report, Draft Includes Only Raw Data

By Keith J. Winstein
NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

The Residence System Implementation Team, created in 2001 to develop and execute a plan for the revamped residence selection procedure, will dissolve next week after submitting its final report, said members of the team.

A Jan. 13 draft of the RSIT report, obtained by *The Tech*, includes a lengthy chronology of the 2002 residence selection process — the first new system in more than 20 years — and results from a series of surveys of freshmen and living groups conducted in fall 2002 by the team.

But the draft report makes no recommendations for changes in the residence system, generally declines to analyze the results of the surveys, and makes no mention of a widely-signed Dormitory Council petition last November that called for dormitory selection to be “brought back as an uninterrupted multiday event.”

Members of the team said the draft is substantially the same as a proposed final copy, which they said has been distributed to RSIT members by the report's principal author — Associate Dean Barbara A. Baker — but was not provided to *The Tech*.

Baker could not be reached for comment.

Players differ over report's role

Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine, one of the report's two intended recipients, said he expected the RSIT's experience to allow it to provide a “thoughtful assessment” of selection procedures.

“I assume they will be giving us their recommendations at that meeting” on Feb. 10, when the RSIT is slated to present its report, he said, including “what should be changed [and] what should stay the same.”

Members of the RSIT, however, said they did not view giving recommendations to be within the scope of their charter. The draft report leaves out almost any suggestion of a recommendation for changes to the system.

“If you think about what RSIT was charged to do, it was charged to implement the system, the new residence design,” said Anthony E. Gray, a residential life associate and an RSIT member.

For this reason, the report, Gray said, “doesn't really have any recommendations about how to go about changing the system.”

“We decided over the fall that we

were not going to let all our opinions go [in the report], and just survey the freshmen and interview the upper-classmen, said Grace R. Kessenich '04, the Dormitory Council president, who served on the RSIT.

Instead, Kessenich said, RSIT intended its report to be about “How are we going to look at this data?” not “How do we think?”

“A lot of the stuff that we had and that we want or don't want is not in the report because that wasn't the scope of the report,” she said. “It presents the data as a report should.”

New group to consider questions

Gray said that the question of recommendations or changes to residence selection would instead be considered by a new committee, as yet unnamed and unformed, to be established by Redwine and Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict as RSIT dissolves.

The new group will start from areas that the RSIT report identified as requiring resolution.

According to the draft report, those areas include “the appropriate and desirable length and structure of

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Universities Near SEVIS Deadline

By Beckett W. Stemer
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Several of MIT's peer universities have said that they will only report the minimum required by the government for the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System. The Institute has vowed to follow a similar policy.

The deadline for bringing SEVIS online has been delayed to Feb. 15 to accommodate difficulties for both universities and the

federal government.

Although universities could begin using SEVIS as early as Jan. 1, an Immigrant and Naturalization Service press release stated that “in order to accommodate schools and exchange visitor programs that are new users of SEVIS, the INS has decided to grant a grace period, until Feb. 15.”

The original deadline for certification to use SEVIS was Jan. 30, at which point all new students and visa requests would have to be

submitted online.

Reporting minimum is common

Both Washington University in St. Louis and Stanford University will report only the minimum information required by the government, said Directors of the Office for International Students and Scholars Kathy Steiner-Lang and John Pierce, respectively.

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AARON D. MIHALIK—THE TECH

Maria Kamenetska '05 acts out Claudius as he tries to purge himself of his sins in church. Daniel J. Katz '03, as Hamlet, sneaks in to kill him, but then decides against it.

IS Installing Mail Filter

By Marissa Vogt
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The SpamAssassin e-mail filter has been installed and has been active on MIT post office servers since Jan. 11, but Information Systems will delay an official announcement until the week of March 10.

Software Release Team Leader Jonathan M. Hunt '98 said, “We want to make sure Web pages on how to make use of it and documentation are up.” After the official announcement, “there will be QuickStart computing classes to help teach people how to use it,” he said.

One member of the Student Information Processing Board said that the delay in announcement is because Information Systems hit a few snags turning SpamAssassin on and off.

In the meantime, SpamAssassin will generally be unused by the MIT community. People who know of the filter's existence and how to config-

ure their mail clients to work with SpamAssassin will be able to use the filter, but little help will be available for those who do not.

SpamAssassin scores and filters

SpamAssassin is a free software product designed to filter unsolicited commercial e-mail, or spam. It scores incoming e-mail by ranking how much each piece resembles spam based on preset rules. Users can configure their mail readers to move the spam into a separate mailbox or delete it.

Some quirky SpamAssassin rules used to identify spam include fonts colored in magenta, the presence of the word “guarantee” in all capital letters, instructions on how to increase the size or length of anatomical structures, and encouragement to participate in illegal Nigerian transac-

Spam, Page 16

UA Kicks Off '03 Elections

By Kathy Lin
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The race for Undergraduate Association president kicked off last night at an informational meeting for all presidential and class council candidates.

Although the meeting was advertised as mandatory, students can still contact the UA if they are interested in running, said UA Election Commissioner Seth E. Dorfman '05.

Three potential teams entered the race for president and vice president

last night.

Teams enter UAP race

Parul Deora '04, the current UA vice president, is running for president with Harel M. Williams '05 as her running mate.

“I have firsthand experience with the UA, and I know what works and what doesn't,” Deora said.

Williams, the current chair of the UA Committee on Student Life, is a

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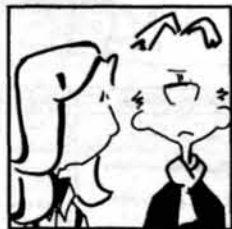
JINA KIM—THE TECH

Georgene M. Hilb '04 explodes from the water in her butterfly stroke. MIT women lost to Amherst College, 136 to 159, in their Feb. 1 meet.



How to have
a rockin' day
for just \$25.

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Comics

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NEWS

University Park developers continue attempts to rezone a plot near Sidney-Pacific as laboratory space.

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WORLD & NATION

NASA to Look at Amateur Shuttle Videos, Photos

THE WASHINGTON POST

As NASA investigators continue their hunt for clues from the fallen Columbia, new attention is being given to images taken by backyard astronomers as the shuttle streaked across the Western skies.

In the videos and still photographs, the amateur astronomers see what appears to them to be bright flashes followed by possible wreckage as far west as California. These images are flying around the Internet and among space buffs and now being sent to NASA.

However, it is far too early to know precisely what the images show, cautioned NASA shuttle program manager Ron Dittemore at a news conference Thursday. The pictures are only beginning to be analyzed by the Columbia Early Sighting Assessment Team at Johnson Space Flight Center, which is reviewing more than 1,300 photographs the space agency has received from the public.

Dittemore asked the public to continue to provide images, even as he appealed for patience. "I'm not aware of any video that shows breakup of the spacecraft. As far as we know, the shuttle was flying well" until it reached Texas, Dittemore said. NASA has said it has not found any confirmed shuttle wreckage west of Fort Worth.

U.S. Allowed to Renovate Turkish Bases for Use in Possible Iraq War

THE WASHINGTON POST

ANKARA, TURKEY

Parliament authorized the United States to renovate several Turkish military bases and ports Thursday for use in a war against Iraq, the first step in an emerging decision to allow U.S. troops to use Turkish soil to open a northern front against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

In a closed session and secret vote that underscored deep anxiety here about the possible war, the parliament stopped short of giving the United States overall permission to station troops here. But Turkish officials and Western diplomats said that, with the government now pushing for it, permission is likely to be formalized when parliament reconvenes after the Muslim holiday of Bayram, in about 12 days.

In a meeting with Turkish reporters Tuesday, Turkish Prime Minister Abdullah Gul said he expects parliament to vote on Feb. 18 in favor of allowing U.S. troops to be based in Turkey, dropping the government's previous insistence on another Security Council vote. A diplomat in Ankara said the government, which enjoys a clear majority in parliament, also has told the United States "that is their commitment."

HHS Inspector General Criticizes Medicare

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Medicare is unnecessarily spending more than \$1 billion a year in reimbursements to health care providers because of a fee schedule that pays some types of providers more than others for performing the same procedure, according to a report issued Thursday by the inspector general of the Health and Human Services Department.

The report by HHS Inspector General Janet Rehnquist was the result of an examination of how much Medicare pays for identical outpatient services provided at a hospital outpatient department and at an ambulatory surgical center (ASC), which are clinic-type facilities not connected to a hospital.

It said that for almost two-thirds of the outpatient services that were examined, hospitals received a higher reimbursement than ASCs. Cutting the fees that hospitals are paid for these services to the lower amounts received by ASCs would save \$1 billion a year, the report said.

Key European Allies Remain Unconvinced by Powell Case

By Keith B. Richburg

THE WASHINGTON POST

PARIS

France and other key U.S. allies declared Thursday that Secretary of State Colin Powell had not made a compelling case for an early armed strike against Iraq in his presentation to the United Nations Security Council Wednesday. France immediately began a diplomatic campaign to shore up opposition to going to war soon.

"There is no change in the French position, no change at all," said Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin, whose country has been one of the most forceful voices for giving U.N. weapons inspectors in Iraq more time to work.

French President Jacques Chirac spoke by telephone Thursday with counterparts at other Security Council countries, Vladimir Putin of Russia, Vicente Fox of Mexico, Ricardo Lagos of Chile, Paul Biya of Cameroon and Bashar al-Assad of Syria.

He told them that France refuses to accept that war is inevitable and that this view is widely shared in the world, according to spokeswoman Catherine Colonna, news services reported. He and Putin

agreed that their governments would continue to work for a diplomatic solution to the crisis. France has not ruled out supporting a war but argues that peaceful have not been exhausted.

Dominique de Villepin, the French foreign minister, said it was premature to discuss a new Security Council resolution authorizing a strike. "A second resolution? We are not at the time for that right now," de Villepin told Europe 1 radio in an interview. France holds a veto in the Security Council.

In other countries that are generally friendly to the United States, people expressed skepticism that Powell had provided proof justifying war. "If Americans know so much, why do they produce so little?" asked Vladimir Lukin, a top Russian legislator and former ambassador to the United States.

France and Germany lead European opposition to a speedy attack. But the United States has many governments on its side there: Britain, Italy, Spain, Denmark and Portugal, as well as Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic have firmly backed the U.S. position. On Wednesday, 10 more European governments, in the former communist east, jointly

declared support for Washington. They were Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

In the Americas, the United States' immediate neighbors Canada and Mexico also signaled that positions remained unchanged.

After Powell's presentation, Canadian foreign minister Bill Graham called it "disturbing and persuasive" but said Canada favored more time for the inspectors.

Mexican Foreign Minister Luis Ernesto Derbez, who watched Powell from Mexico's seat on the Security Council, said his country's preference for a nonmilitary solution had not changed. "Secretary Powell's presentation strengthens Mexico's conviction about the necessity to advance toward an effective and verifiable disarmament," he said in a statement. But, Mexico still believes the "ideal way" to disarm Iraq is more inspections.

About 86 percent of 32,000 people who participated in a telephone poll Wednesday night on Mexico's television news show, El Noticiero, answered "no" to the question, "Should Mexico support a U.S. military attack against Iraq?"

Bush Administration Defends Policy of Korean Containment

By Peter Slevin

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Top Bush administration officials defended the deliberate pace of their evolving policy toward North Korea Thursday as a growing chorus of critics said the United States must do more — and do it faster — to prevent North Korea from producing atomic weapons or nuclear material that could be peddled abroad.

Secretary of State Colin Powell told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that ample time remains for international diplomacy to deter the Pyongyang government. He said the administration is searching for a formula with its partners that does not deliver concessions unless North Korea changes its behavior.

On a day when North Korea's official news agency warned that a pre-emptive U.S. attack on the nuclear facilities at Yongbyon would spark a "full-scale war," Powell said the Americans have tried to lower the rhetoric while communicating with the government of Kim Jong Il through a variety of channels.

"We have tried to understand what they want. But they need to understand clearly what they have to do in order to resolve this problem," Powell said. He added that he discussed the issue at length Wednesday with the Chinese and Russian foreign ministers as U.S. officials seek to increase pressure on North Korea and convene multi-lateral talks.

The central conundrum is an escalating series of North Korean moves to reject international nuclear agreements, produce fissile material and, analysts believe, develop an arsenal of nuclear weapons. U.S. authorities have discovered no simple way to reverse the actions, and have all but ruled out the use of force.

Time seems short to many nuclear specialists and Korea scholars who note that the Pyongyang government could produce enough high-quality plutonium for four to six weapons within a matter of months if it reclaims about 8,000 spent fuel rods stored at Yongbyon. Author Don Oberdorfer warned Thursday that "unless something is done in the next few weeks, my sense is it's going to be too late."

WEATHER

A Tiny Taste of '78

By Michael J. Ring

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

There is some snow in our forecast, but it will be nothing like the great blizzard of '78 that paralyzed Boston 25 years ago today.

The storm of February 6-7, 1978 brought 27.1 inches to Boston, making it the city's largest single-storm snowfall total in over a century of records. Some suburban communities received three to four feet of snow.

The blizzard of '78 formed out of the convergence of two separate systems. A cold front moving across the country and a low pressure system moving up the coast from the Southeast merged together off the Mid-Atlantic states, rapidly strengthening over the relatively warm ocean water. As the storm grew its movement slowed, so the center lingered off of New England for over a day. The result was New England's storm of the century.

Today's storm was also forecast to strengthen from the low pressure system observed over the Southeast yesterday, but the storm center will move far southeast of Nantucket. Thus, Boston will receive a glancing blow from this storm, and only a few inches of snow are expected here. The Cape and Islands, closer to the storm center, should easily exceed a half-foot of accumulation.

Extended Forecast

Today: Snow. High near 32°F (0°C).

Tonight: Snow tapering to flurries. Accumulation of about two inches likely in Cambridge. Low near 22°F (-6°C).

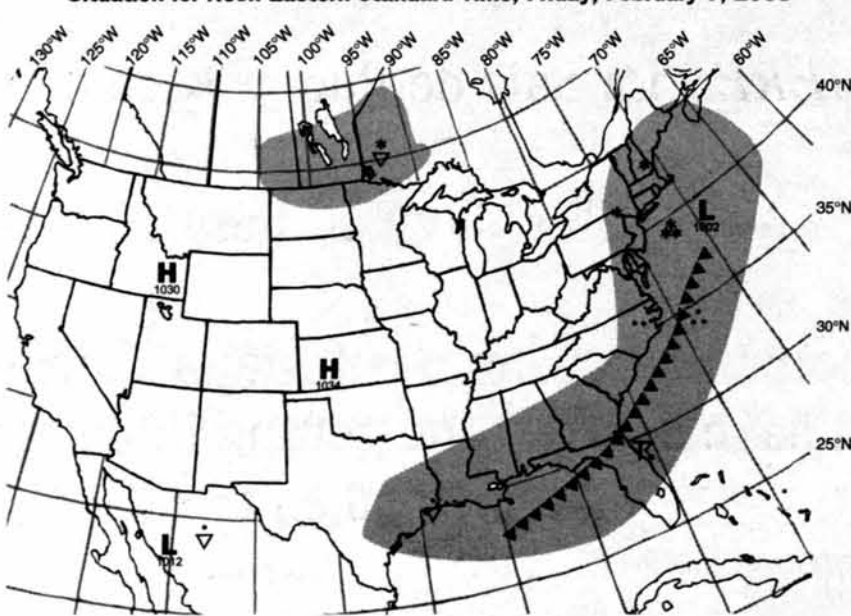
Saturday: Sunny and cold. High near 34°F (1°C).

Saturday night: Scattered clouds and cold. Low near 20°F (-7°C).

Sunday: Mostly cloudy and slightly warmer. High near 36°F (3°C) and low near 25°F (-4°C).

Monday: A chance of snow. High near freezing.

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, February 7, 2003



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow * Rain * Light * Moderate ** Heavy ***	Fog Thunderstorm Haze
L Low Pressure	--- Warm Front		
§ Hurricane	--- Cold Front		
	--- Stationary Front		

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Democrats Call Bush Funding Proposals Misleading to Public

By Dana Milbank
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Several new programs that President Bush proposed in the buildup to his fiscal 2004 budget have turned out to be somewhat smaller than they first appeared.

On topics including AIDS funding, mentoring and homeland security, Democrats have accused the president of misleading the public. But Bush aides say the president's budget proposals, released Monday, back up his promises.

Thursday, Bush burnished his green credentials by promoting an initiative to produce hydrogen-powered cars. "I'm asking Congress to spend \$1.2 billion on a new nation-

al commitment to take hydrogen fuel cell cars from the laboratory to the showroom," Bush, echoing his State of the Union address, said after examining fuel-cell technologies at the National Building Museum.

But a fact sheet distributed Thursday by the White House stated that \$720 million of the \$1.2 billion is in "new funding." The rest — 40 percent — is the government's existing fuel-cell spending.

Democratic lawmakers accused the president of repackaging existing programs to conceal his preference for expanded energy drilling. Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) a Democratic presidential candidate, called the counting of existing funds "a

shell game," adding: "Rumors of this administration's commitment to hydrogen fuel cells are greatly exaggerated."

Amy Call, spokeswoman for the Office of Management and Budget, defended the administration's consistency. "The president has made clear his priorities, outlined them, and his budget reflects them very clearly," she said.

In his State of the Union address, Bush proposed spending \$15 billion to combat AIDS overseas over five years. He said that \$10 billion of that would be in new funds.

His 2004 budget plan, however, called for spending \$1 billion — of which \$450 million would be new funding, OMB said.

U.N. Weapons Inspectors Allowed Private Talk with Iraqi Scientist

By John Daniszewski
LOS ANGELES TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

U.N. weapons inspectors interviewed an Iraqi biological warfare specialist in private Thursday night, the first time the country had allowed a scientist to meet alone with those searching for weapons of mass destruction.

The interview was announced by Gen. Amir Saadi, an adviser to President Saddam Hussein for the weapons inspection program. Earlier, Iraq announced that several of its scientists were willing to be interviewed in private — a step demanded by the United States and Britain as an indicator that Iraq is willing to make full disclosure of its weapons.

There was no information on what was discussed in the session with the scientist identified only as Sinan.

A government official meanwhile repudiated charges that Iraq is cooperating with a suspected terrorist leader who was cited in a Wednesday speech by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell before the Security Council. To the contrary, the official said, Iraq has been trying since last November to locate and arrest the man linked to al-Qaida, as well as several of his associates, at the behest of Jordan.

Until now, Iraq had maintained that it was willing to make its scientists available to the U.N. team, but that the scientists themselves refused

to be interrogated without a representative of the Iraqi government present, for fear their testimony could be misrepresented or misused.

U.S. officials, however, have been adamant that scientists be interviewed away from their government "minders," saying that the scientists could face execution if they are found to have given away secrets to the inspection teams.

Some U.S. officials have called for the scientists to be flown out of Iraq with their families in order to be free of fear of reprisals from the Iraqi authorities.

Allowing private interviews with scientists was one of two key demands from chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix in a letter to Iraq.

Study Finds Hormone Useful In Preventing Premature Births

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Obstetricians have identified the first medical treatment that can prevent pre-term births in many high-risk pregnant women, a discovery that could halt the spiraling increase in early deliveries in the United States.

A nationwide team of researchers has found that administering a form of the hormone progesterone weekly during the later stages of pregnancy can reduce pre-term births by a third.

The drug proved so effective that the clinical trial was halted early to provide the treatment to all participants, Dr. Paul J. Meis of the Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center told a San Francisco meeting of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Thursday. He and his associates have already begun using the drug for high-risk women in their regular practice, Meis said.

Doctors were particularly excited because the treatment worked as well for blacks, who are 50 percent more likely to suffer pre-term births, as for whites.

One in every eight babies in the United States, or about 476,000 per year, is now born prematurely — before the 37th week of gestation — a proportion that has grown 27 percent over the past two decades. The increasing age of mothers and use of in vitro fertilization, which often leads to multiple births, is a major risk factor for premature births.

Justice Department Revises Guidelines for Corporate Crime

THE WASHINGTON POST

The Justice Department has issued new guidelines for bringing criminal charges against corporations, emphasizing that it wants "genuine" cooperation from businesses in high-profile investigations.

"Too often business organizations, while purporting to cooperate with a Department investigation, in fact take steps to impede the quick and effective exposure of the complete scope of wrongdoing," Deputy Attorney General Larry Thompson wrote in a Jan. 20 memo to federal prosecutors nationwide.

Some defense lawyers and business groups fear the policy will force companies to waive attorney-client confidentiality in exchange for leniency from prosecutors, leading businesses to release documents that could expose them to shareholder lawsuits.

"This is the most critical issue in the relationship between corporations and government today," said George Terwilliger III, who was deputy attorney general in the administration of George H.W. Bush.

Terwilliger said that even when companies want to help the government and turn over the results of internal investigations, courts have found that legal advice and other related materials can later be made available to plaintiffs' lawyers, leaving a company open to potentially serious civil liability.

2003 CHOICE OF MAJOR FAIR

With HASS Concentration Fair

WHO: CLASS OF 2007 and anyone wanting advice about Majors

WHAT: Associate Advisors and departments giving first hand information about all Majors and how to choose a HASS Concentration

WHERE: La Sala de Puerto Rico and West Lounge, (The Student Center)

WHEN: Wednesday February 12th, 1-4pm

Come to the Choice of Major Fair with your advising group and friends and have a great time getting important information and talking to students that have taken the classes you want to know about.

RAFFLE PRIZES FOR THOSE THAT ATTEND!!!!

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Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m.

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Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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Black People Aren't...

Philip Burrowes

February is Black History Month, which means many things to many people. Some see it as far too small a time period to address long-neglected cultural issues. Others look at it as an offensive manifestation of political correctness and discrimination. Between those extremes lie those who are not bothered either way by the month, whether because they find it useful or couldn't care less. Almost none of these people will ever bother to wonder what, exactly, this "Black"-ness they are supposed to study means. Perhaps it is undefinable, but some items would definitely not appear on any hypothetical list. We should take care to remember that Black people are not:

African American: "Black History" is often referred to as "African-American History," "African-American" being the PC euphemism for "Black-American." Without spiraling off into a polemic against the PC term, it should be apparent that these two strands of history, however intertwined they may be, are not equivalent. Most people who consider themselves Black do not live in the United States, and a significant portion of those that do are immigrants who do not see themselves as American. If you really want to focus on African-Americans this month, then go ahead, but don't conflate that and the studies of Black people internationally.

Descendants of slaves: Slavery plays a smaller role in the histories of Black people than it might seem. It is often blamed simultaneously for the state of Blacks in the Americas and for the state of West African countries. This in turn overshadows the importance of the years following the various emancipations of this hemisphere (let alone those of others), which ranges from a two-century period for Haiti to barely one for Brazil. Even worse, it overlooks the fact that most Black people are not descendants of slaves nor do their nations have any significant connection to the Trans-Atlantic or Horn-based slave trades.

Only Black/White: While the previous two points concerned the vast majority of Black people, the population of this group cannot be properly quantified, given the global variance of racial paradigms (e.g. a Black person in the United States may not be a Black person in the Dominican Republic). That being said, some portion of the world's Black population may be counted in nearly any other demographic category the layman would care to name. Just because exogamy rates are low does not mean they are zero. Black people are more than just some "combination" of Western European and Sub-Saharan African, just as your average "obvious" Ashkenazi, Latino, or Asian may be gentile, Anglo, or Occidental too.

Minorities: Non-American Blacks tend to be the "majority" group of their country. However,

even within the United States, given de facto segregation there exist many communities where Blacks would be considered the plurality, or even the majority. Atlanta and Washington, D.C., are the perennial examples, but the same hold trues for other major cities like the Bronx and New Orleans, not to mention large sections of other cities, like Chicago and Detroit. While on a national scale Black people still constitute a minority, nobody lives in a national microcosm; no state is a fractal.

Oppressed/Underrepresented: Despite the picture painted domestically, in many places Blacks are fully in control of their political prospects. This control comes at the expense of other groups. Baseo Panday, the only prime minister of South Asian descent in the history of Trinidad and Tobago, lost his post to the Black Patrick Manning in what effectively became a racial contest. Zimbabwe has confiscated land from thousands of white farmers since 2000. Black ethnic groups have monopolies over power in numerous other countries, including ethnic minorities such as "Americo-Liberians" and ethnic majorities like the Fang of Equatorial Guinea.

Poor: As the American plight of urban poverty, which disproportionately affected Blacks, accelerated in aftermath of the decline of the civil rights movement, the number of Blacks in upper and middle economic classes increased. The result has been an increasing divide in the financial status of the so-called "Black community," a divide growing faster than that of the general population. Internationally, not only may such class divisions be even greater, but it should be recalled that some primarily Black countries like the Bahamas and Bermuda are actually relatively well-off—not just compared to the "Third World," but compared to the world.

Good at sports: Given the disproportionate overrepresentation of Blacks within the major athletic leagues, even the least racist American can be forgiven for associating Blacks with physical achievement. Primarily Black nations, however, have an overall poor record in international competition. Aside from track and field, and perhaps cricket, an English sport played in South Africa, those places have little to no presence in major events. Basketball is dominated by Europeans and the United States, baseball by the Americas and Japan, football by Latin America and Europe, ice hockey by Canada and Europe, field hockey by Asia and Europe, and so forth. No indigenous sports have made it big from Black countries to the international stage, and these governments generally lack the money to spend on a luxury like a decent national stadium.

Then again, maybe Brazil and Cuba could be considered Black nations. It's harder to tell what Black people aren't than what they are, but it's still not easy.

Bush in the Eye Of History

Basil Enwegbara

I have spent much time following the presidency of George W. Bush. My curiosity about this man began as far back as 2000 at the early stage of his campaign for the presidency of the most powerful country in the world. Like most who followed that process, I felt disappointed with the handling of the election procedure.

But Sept. 11's terrorist attack on America quickly changed my perception of the president. Surprisingly, I discovered great leadership in Bush: how he handled that terrible event; how he cried; how he brought a terrified people together; how he sought and embraced the collaboration of the international community; and most importantly, how he made sure that innocent Muslims in America never became scapegoats. In short, President Bush won the admiration of the world, including his arch-critics and political opponents, and even those who were hurt by the way he was elected. All came to support his government with almost no criticism.

Another surprising episode was how the president handled Senator Trent Lott's racist remarks that sparked anger around the country. Blacks and whites alike denounced the senator for admiring the segregationist policies of the past. To everyone's surprise, President Bush handled the episode to everyone's satisfaction. Not only did he disagree with his party's Senate leader, but he also denounced Lott for not understanding the horror of America's segregationist past. More to come was in his State of the Union address, in which he surprised everyone by declaring a war on HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. He allocated \$15 billion to fight this battle over the next five years in Africa and the Caribbean. The announcement showed President Bush's great moral capital and his sincere intention to help bring smiles to the faces of forgotten fellow human beings dying of AIDS.

But the question remains: why is it that after all these gestures, many people not only still doubt his leadership but oppose it? Isn't his moral leadership enough to convince them that he is truly a compassionate president, learning how to lead America in today's complex world? At the end of the day, people seem more interested in his weaknesses than his strengths, especially because of the growing belief that he is a president who favors the interests of his friends and the privileged few. On the economic front there is a strong feeling that he has failed. Critics suggest that his economic stimulus plan, rather than boosting the economy, will drag the country deeper and deeper into debt. Without a comprehensive plan, skeptics believe that Mr. Bush's stunning boldness won't be effective enough to

jump-start business investment, which is believed to be the key to coming out of the current recession. Leading economists, like Paul Krugman of Princeton University, disapprove of the proposed tax cuts, including the elimination of the shareholder tax on dividends. They believe an elimination of the dividend tax would not help to draw more investors into the stock market, and would further derail economic recovery. Based on the surprising announcements in his State of the Union address and new budget proposal, most critics, frightened by his ambitious speech, conclude that the president is a big-government "conservative," who would like to reduce taxes but at the same time increase government spending to a total of \$2.2 trillion. The growing question is, where will the administration find the money, if not through raising taxes? How can the president promise \$400 billion over the next ten years to modern Medicare, the federal health program for the elderly, and at the same time pledge \$674 billion for an economic stimulus package?

Even as appealing as his international AIDS initiative (which unfortunately caught less attention in Africa) is, it too has attracted criticism. Some see it as just a way to improve American image abroad as well as a ploy to win friends at a time America needs allies to legitimize its potential invasion of Iraq. Others see it as a business strategy, another way to prop up American firms, which for some time now have been worried about African demands at the World Trade Organization for wider access to generic drugs. There are even those who see this largesse simply as the result of Trent Lott's racist comments and as a way of burnishing the image of the Republican Party. Internationally, feelings are growing that if President Bush wants America to decide how American money is spent and who will get it, he is undermining the effectiveness of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, created in 2001.

This administration has continuously kept critics alive, be it anti-Bushism across Europe and the Arab world, or be it at home, where protests are on the rise against war in Iraq without the support of the U.N. But at the same time, the Bush administration has its admirers busy singing songs of praise.

What we are witnessing is the rebirth of the international politics of controversy. It has not been seen since the 1960s with the Vietnam War, the civil rights protests, the environmental protection campaign, and the Cuban missile crisis. George W. Bush no doubt will go down in history as both a courageous and controversial president, whether he succeeds or not. And those Africans who will benefit from his generosity will remain grateful to him for saving their lives, no matter what his ulterior motives may be.

Anti-Semitism in Egypt

Guest Column
Richard Kraus

Whenever anyone attempts to raise the issue of the role that anti-Semitism, or, more precisely, anti-Judaism, has played in the origins and persistence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, opponents of Israel can always be counted on to claim that Israel's advocates are just using the charge of anti-Judaism to silence legitimate criticism of Israel. In this way, Israel's opponents silence any discussion of Judeophobia. This is most unfortunate, because this anti-Judaism is leading, almost ineluctably, to another major Arab-Israeli war, a war on the order of the Six Day War of 1967, or the Yom Kippur War of 1973. This war could be prevented, but, tragically, it does not appear that it will be.

The reason that war is coming is that Egyptian politics are currently undergoing, on a larger scale, the same process which Palestinian politics underwent during the Oslo process, which led to the current intifada. Before Oslo, when the disputed territories were under Israeli administration, living-standards for the Palestinians rose rapidly. According to Patrick Clawson of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, per-capita incomes of Palestinians in the territories nearly quadrupled between 1968 and 1992. After Arafat and his cronies came to rule over the territories, they began to steal everything they could, causing Palestinian per-capita incomes to fall drastically, even prior to the intifada. Not surprisingly, this produced substantial discontent amongst the Palestinian public.

Arafat and his cronies employed an age-old strategy to deflect this discontent from themselves. They used their control over the media and the educational system in the territories to indoctrinate the Palestinian public with anti-Jewish propaganda, so as to make the Jews into the scapegoat for all the ills of the Palestinian people.

One example of this is an article, written by Naser Ahmad, an official of the PA's Political Guidance Directorate, in *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*, the official Palestinian Authority newspaper, saying that "Corruption is a Jewish trait worldwide. So much so that one can seldom find corruption that was not masterminded by Jews or that Jews are not responsible for. They are well known for their intense love of money and its accumulation. The way in which they get hold of that money does not interest them in the least." Another example is the textbook, *Muqarar al-Tilawa Wa'ahkam Al-Tajwid*, prepared by the Palestinian Authority for fifth-graders, which says that Jews are cowards whom God will damn to hell. Unsurprisingly, this hate-speech led to increasingly serious acts of violence, culminating in the collapse of the Camp David talks and the terrorist war that has been waged against Israel ever since.

A similar process is now underway in Egypt. Hosni Mubarak, the autocratic ruler of Egypt, is, like Arafat, increasingly unpopular with his people, largely due to Egypt's continuing economic problems. Also, like Arafat, Mubarak uses anti-Jewish propaganda to deflect popular discontent away from himself and toward Egypt's Jewish neighbor. For example, during November and December, Egypt's state-run television network broadcast a televised version, entitled *Horseman without*

a Horse, of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, the anti-Jewish tract forged by the secret police of Tsarist Russia which was later used by the Nazis to incite anti-Jewish violence. In another example, an Egyptian government-run newspaper, *Al-Akhbar*, printed these comments by Fatma Abdallah Mahmoud: "the Jews are accursed — the Jews of our time, those who preceded them and those who will come after them, if any Jews come after them. Hitler himself, whom they accuse of Nazism, is in my eyes no more than a modest pupil in the world of murder and bloodshed. He is completely innocent of the charge of frying them in the hell of his false Holocaust! [sic] But I, personally and in light of this imaginary tale, complain to Hitler, even saying to him from the bottom of my heart, 'If only you had done it, brother, if only it had really happened, so that the world could sigh in relief [without] their evil and sin.'" Sooner or later, this hate-speech, propagated by the Egyptian government, will force the Egyptian government to go to war with Israel.

Someone might object that surely the Egyptians would not start a war they know they would lose. The problem with this argument is that most Egyptians do not know anything of the sort. Most Egyptians are too young to actually remember any of the wars with Israel, and what they have been taught in their history books is that Egypt won in 1973, and only lost in 1967 because of a supposed (actually nonexistent) Anglo-American attack on Egypt. Mubarak himself, who served in the Egyptian air force in 1967, is no doubt aware of the facts regarding this matter, but he is also aware of another set of facts. His immediate predecessor, Anwar Sadat, was assassinated by

Egyptian radicals for making peace with Israel. Sadat's immediate predecessor, Gamal Abdel Nasser, on the other hand, lost the Suez War, the Six Day War, and the War of Attrition, and stayed in power each time, so Mubarak probably cannot be deterred. Once the Egyptians go to war with Israel, moreover, it is almost certain that Syria will also, and Jordan as well.

If the anti-Jewish hate-speech were to stop, however, the danger of war would subside. One way the Mubarak regime might be persuaded to halt this propaganda would be if the American government were to announce that it would henceforth make Egypt's annual receipt of \$2.2 billion in American aid conditional on an end to the incitement, but since the American government, especially the State Department, seems wedded to its conception of Egypt as a "friendly, moderate" country, it is unlikely to pursue any policy that might seem antagonistic.

It might be possible to overcome this bureaucratic inertia, if there were serious and sustained public pressure on the American government to stop subsidizing this hate-speech. Unfortunately, when a university in North America can ban its Hillel organization, essentially declaring Jews and Judaism unwelcome as Concordia University in Montreal has recently done, without much public attention from the American media, it is unlikely that there will be any serious public pressure to significantly alter America's foreign-aid policy toward Egypt — not, at least, until it is too late. This is very unfortunate, since it means that war will probably not be averted.

Richard Kraus is a graduate student in the Department of Political Science.

FEATURES

Campus Profile — Antonio Saravia

Jose's Mexican Restaurant food truck employee discusses life, work, and politics

By Brian Loux

ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

Craving a taco in your lunch break between classes? Jose's Mexican Restaurant, one of the four food trucks outside Building 68, has been serving lunches to hungry locals for almost two years.

Captaining the booth is Antonio Saravia, who lived in El Salvador as a child, grew up in Madison, Wisconsin, and moved to the Boston area just three months ago. Though El Salvadoran by birth, he received the name Antonio from his half-Italian adopted mother when he came to America.

The repeat customers at the truck know him for his courtesy and talkative nature. Recently I spoke to Saravia about his life and job after polishing off a quesadilla. The most important thing I learned is not to do an interview at peak lunch time, when you can be a liability to business.

The Tech: How many regular customers do you get a day?

Antonio Saravia: Oh, we usually get about 25 to 50 regulars a day. Or at least that's the number of faces I recognize.

TT: How many one time customers do you think you get?

Saravia: I don't know. I think once in a while I get some, but most are graduate students and construction workers and people from the buildings.

Maybe they come once, and I don't remember them. But there are a lot I know by face and I talk to them ... and ask them where they're from. I get some people from Australia, Italy, India, Yugoslavia, England, and Albania. They're from all over, believe me.

I like that I get international customers because I'm not from here, either. I've been here for about 17 years, when an American family adopted me. My mom was from Madison, Wisconsin and my dad was from Wesleyan, Michigan. I went through high school in Madison.

TT: Do you have any rivalry or bitter feelings towards the Goosebeary's truck?

Saravia: Not really. We just try to do our job here and let them run theirs.

TT: Why do you think there are so few Mexican restaurants in Boston?

here?

Saravia: I'm awake at about quarter to seven. From my place, it takes me about twenty minutes to get here.

TT: Do you have any other job besides this one?

TT: Should America go to war with Iraq?

Saravia: To me, I don't agree with it. At all. But I just hope I won't have to go serve there, you know?

TT: How do you deal with the extreme temperatures during the summer and winter?

Saravia: When it's nice outside, it's very warm in here. For that, we just open the windows in the back. We recently got more windows to handle the heat better. We also try to have food already prepared so the customers don't have to stand near the truck all the time.

When it's cold outside like now, from the waist up, it's warm from the ovens and from the waist down, it's especially cold because of the metal floors.

For that, we'll put on extra burners for heat. We'll even shut our front windows, too. Last week though, it was so cold and foggy that we shut our front windows, but the fog build up on the windows. People thought that we were closed. I had to write out "open" with my finger on the windows.

TT: Have a family?

Saravia: Not here. My mom and dad live in Portland, Oregon. They moved after I graduated. We visit each other every so often, but I go there more often. I only moved here three months ago.

TT: So Jose's Mexican Restaurant serves the Harvard community, and the truck serves MIT. Which ones are the better customers?

Saravia: Oh, man. I can't really judge because we don't have a truck over in Harvard. Plus, if I tell you MIT, and they guys at Harvard hear about it, they'll be like, "WTF?" And if I say Harvard, I'll lose all business here. But it is great to be here.



Antonio Saravia gives Vinay Rodrigues '06 his change and begins to prepare his chicken quesadilla meal at the Jose's Mexican Restaurant food truck.

Saravia: Because there's not a big Hispanic population here. Why's that? Probably because the cost of living is so expensive.

TT: This year, the MIT Card became available to many [food venues]. Did Jose's notice any change in business between last year and this year?

Saravia: Nope, it's still the same.

TT: What time do you get up for the job

Saravia: No, just this one. Eventually, though, one of the things I want to do is become ... a *periodista de guerra* [war correspondent]. I think that would be a very interesting job.

TT: Were you upset that the Patriots didn't make the playoffs?

Saravia: Not really. I'm not a Patriot fan at all. I root for the Packers.

Gadget Review

Roomba Intelligent Floor-Vac from iRobot

By Kailas Narendran

STAFF WRITER

Why toil endlessly to clean up the floor of your apartment when you're just going to get it dirty again? The answer to this question divides the population more than any political or religious controversy (kind of like the question of "Do you like Harry Potter?"). On one hand you have the "dunno" and "amen brother!" and on the other you have "because" and "it's disgusting." I have to say I was in the former category till I saw the Roomba Intelligent Floor-Vac from iRobot.

The Roomba is the world's first robot vacuum cleaner. You simply put the device in the middle of the room and select a room size (small, medium and large). After that, the Roomba takes over, driving around like a tiny, robotic housewife, cleaning the floor.

How the Roomba works

The robot starts by spiraling outward from the center of the room. Once it runs into something (sensed by the bumper on the front end), it starts a wall-following algorithm using the bumper and proximity sensors.

A small spinning brush picks up dirt off the corner, pushing it into the path of Roomba's brushes. After a bit of wall following, the Roomba starts to cut across the room in a somewhat random pattern, cleaning as it goes.

It has sensors on its front end to ensure that it doesn't drive off a step or any other dangerous architectural formation. The

wheels are soft, knobbed rubber, allowing it to easily traverse all types of flooring (I tested carpet, tile and hardwood), and transitions without getting stuck.

It runs off of rechargeable NiMH batteries which are good for about 45 minutes to an hour of continuous operation (enough to clean two or three good sized dorm rooms, assuming no carpet).

There's also a small catch tray that's easily removable for emptying the robot.

Roomba beats out competition

When I first saw the Roomba, I was skeptical of its functionality. I had used handheld, battery-powered vacuums before with very limited or almost no success. Products such as the Dust Devil required me to cover the same spill about 4 times to actually pick anything up. The Roomba does a much better job for a couple of obvious, and not so obvious, reasons.

First of all, the Roomba has rotating brushes (bristle and a rubber one), that help it pick up all the crud off of both hard and soft surfaces.

But the subtlety that allows this battery-operated vacuum to do such a good job is that it can mindlessly cover the same ground over and over, picking up a little bit on each

pass.

While this would be boring for most people, the robot does it with no complaints. This subtlety is how they can cram the value of a vacuum cleaner that could easily cost hundreds of dollars into this unique, reason-



Roomba, a new automated vacuum cleaner made by iRobot, is capable of vacuuming an entire room by itself.

ably priced unit.

Putting Roomba to the test

I put the Roomba through its paces in my apartment and it fared quite well. The floors are mostly hardwood, with a couple of car-

pets placed here and there. The robot had no problems with the transitions between surfaces, and ended up covering the floor quite well. The small catch tray wasn't a problem, either. The first time we ran the vacuum we had to empty the catch tray a couple of times. But since it's so easy to use, I run the Roomba every other day and there isn't enough time for more than one tray's worth of debris to accumulate.

The unit does have trouble when it goes over loose cables. They tend to get caught in the brushes. Five minutes of work tidying up loose cables and rug tassels quickly makes a room "Roomba Friendly."

A "virtual wall unit" is provided with the robot and allows you to set up an invisible wall wherever you want. I found this unit to be very imprecise, creating a wedge shaped wall rather than a linear boundary. I often find that it's easier to just put a box or chair in the way of a door I don't want the Roomba to pass through. The charge on the battery is plenty for a room up to a few hundred square feet.

Overall, I think the Roomba is a nifty piece of technology. Its underlying principals are simple, but the emergent behavior is pretty impressive. You can buy it from a variety of retailers including Brookstone for about \$200. You can find out more information at <http://www.roombavac.com>.

Pioneers in Engineering Alexandre Eiffel

By Marc Farrell

Alexandre Gustave Eiffel was born in Dijon, France in 1832. A diligent and very promising student with an amazing understanding of math and science, Eiffel studied at the École Centrale des Arts et Manufactures, and upon graduation became actively involved in the design and building of French railways, viaducts and bridges. Eiffel is best known for his architectural genius behind two of the world's most historic and visible landmarks: the Eiffel Tower and the Statue of Liberty.

In 1885, Eiffel began work on the Statue of Liberty, which was given to the United States as a gift from France, as a symbol of international friendship and the vision of freedom shared by the two countries. He was responsible for the design of the wrought-iron skeleton used to support the inside of the statue. He also supervised the raising of the statue, calculated how much pressure would be put on each joint, and determined the structure's weight distribution. He advised the assembly of various pieces of "Lady Liberty" to maximize safety and the life of the statue. His methods were very economical and helped pave the way for modern skyscrapers.

Eiffel is best known for the ultimate manifestation of his immense talent — the Eiffel Tower — which is said to be as much a symbol of love and romance as a display of engineering genius. The tower was built to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the French Revolution at the Centennial Exposition (World Fair) in 1889. Eiffel's proposal was selected from among over 700 others and construction commenced in 1887. As a result of careful design and construction, the tower was completed without the need for corrections.

His extraordinary abilities were again on display as he calculated the distance between the 2.5 million rivets in the tower within one-tenth of a millimeter and made the structure strong enough to withstand the force of high winds. Upon completion in 1889, the tower was the tallest structure in the world at 984 feet, and so perfect that the *Scientific American* issue of June 15, 1889 stated that it was "without error, without accident, and without delay." He would later add a meteorological station, a military telegraph, and an aerodynamics laboratory to the tower.

Though his ideas were rejected at the time, he was also the first man to propose the construction of a tunnel under the English Channel, as well as an underground rail system in Paris. After his withdrawal from commercial life, he spent the rest of his time studying aerodynamics. However, when he died in 1927 at his mansion in Paris, Eiffel had already firmly secured his place as one of the most brilliant and influential architects of our time.

This series spotlights the works of notable scientists to provide insight into the people and history behind engineering. Articles are written by eligibles of the Massachusetts chapter of Tau Beta Pi.

Out and About

How to spend a day on the town under \$25

By Amy Lee

Want to spend a day out in the city, but short on cash? This is the first installment of a regular column that chronicles fun activities to do around town that fit a student's budget.

This week's column focuses on activities one can do in the cold weather.

10:30 a.m.

A few friends and I head out to the **Garment District** to check out the vintage clothing.

The store is decked with mannequins wearing crazy feather hats and pink 80s prom dresses. We enter the costume section of the store, and try on the ultra-cool fake snake skin cowboy hats, and examine the expertly bedazzled jean jackets.

In the regular section, there are all sorts of clothes ranging from fuzzy bras with plastic babies heads on them to more typical t-shirts and jeans. We muse over how/where one is supposed to wear a rainbow-colored cloth miniskirt/tube top/whatever we find and, after trying on some more crazy sunglasses, we go downstairs.

The first floor consists of a fairly self-explanatory dollar-a-pound section, where they spread clothes all over the floor and sell it by the pound. There are also used shoes, old \$1 records, and big ladybug stuffed animals.

We become slightly disturbed when we see a little kid crawl out from under a pile of clothes, and after vowing to return to the store either for Halloween, Mardi Gras or slutty clothes, we decide to leave.

Money Left: \$25.00

12 p.m.

We ride the Number 1 bus to the South End to get a very late brunch at **Mike's City Diner**. It's a nice crowded place that serves breakfast all day and, judging from the "best-of" awards plastered all over the walls, is apparently very famous.

Our notion is further supported when we spot a picture of Bill Clinton eating at one of the tables, and another shot of him shaking hands with the same guy we see at the register behind the counter. As we wait about half an hour to be seated, we discuss whether or not that guy is "Mike," how much we like/dislike strawberry milk, and what items regular hot dogs contain that kosher hot dogs don't.

After we're seated, I order the Emergency Room breakfast special, which consists of two eggs, any style, three pieces of either bacon or sausage, four pieces of raisin toast, either home fries or grits, and two huge pancakes for less than seven dollars. When we get our food, we're all astonished at the overwhelmingly huge portions, which none of us completely finish.

(Tip: You can spend even less money by ordering one of the breakfast specials and splitting the large portions with a friend.)

Money Left: \$17.55

1:45 p.m.

We go and wait for the Number 8 bus to ride to the **Museum of Fine Arts**. It doesn't come

on time, so while we wait in the cold, we amuse ourselves by watching a horde of pigeons brawl in the middle of the street over some food scraps. It becomes even funnier when the pigeons don't move, no matter how much the cars honk at them.

There's a sudden turn in sentiment when a car speeds on through the lane and we watch firsthand as the car turns into a makeshift guillotine for one of the birds. After a bunch of "crunch" sounds, the bus finally comes and we use our transfer passes from the Number 1 bus to get to the MFA.

Money Left: \$17.55

3 p.m.

There's a long line at the MFA for admission tickets, but we push our way to the counter and flash our MIT IDs. Armed with our free tickets, we enter and wander from the Asian Arts exhibit to the Sheeler photography

rooms. The MFA closes at 4:45 p.m. on Saturdays, so we take out a map of the labyrinth-like museum and make our way to the Greek exhibit. The intricate and somewhat lewd plates keep our attention until closing time, when the museum employees herd us out of the building.

Money Left: \$17.55

5:20 p.m.

We're still not hungry, but we're a bit tired of being on our feet all day, so we ride the T to the Boston Commons to watch a movie at **Loews Theater**. *Catch Me If You Can* turns out to be delightfully funny, and the large, padded chairs definitely revive us.

(Tip: If you can plan ahead, either watch a matinee showing with a student-id discount, or buy \$6 tickets from MITAC.)

Money Left: \$6.55

8 p.m.

We ride the T to Kenmore Square and then walk to **El Pelon Tacqueria** for dinner. El Pelon is another small restaurant, with only 6 tables, which are all occupied. We get drinks and chips and salsa while we wait at the counter for a place to sit.

I order a fish burrito, and it turns out to be a rolled up flour tortilla almost 4 inches in width and stuffed with black beans, rice, lettuce, spicy mayo, and several large pieces of not-too-greasy fish. It takes us all a while to work through our huge burritos (which are definitely big enough to be a meal), and by the time we finish dinner, it's half past nine.



Chana M. Greene '06 amuses herself by trying on clothes at the Garment District.

Money Left: \$1.56

10 p.m.

As we walk back to the T stop, we spot a SafeRide shuttle driving by, and we flag it down by jumping and waving. It stops, and not only do we save a dollar, but we get dropped off right next to our dorm. And hey, I've still got enough money to do my laundry.

Today's Tab: \$23.44

Places Visited This Week

Garment District
200 Broadway
617-876-5230

Mike's City Diner
1714 Washington St
617-267-9393

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Avenue
617-267-9300

Lowe's Theater
175 Tremont Street
617-423-3499

El Pelon Tacqueria
92 Peterborough Street
617-262-9090

Ask SIPB

STUDENT INFORMATION PROCESSING BOARD

Athena is everywhere at MIT. When you stop to use an Athena station, why not configure it the way you want to use it? This week, we will discuss how to configure a few parts of the user interface.

Question: How can I adjust the size of a window when I use Athena? Sometimes windows pop up as a 4x6 rectangle when I have like 39,485,734 more inches on the screen to use.

Answer: To resize a window, move your mouse cursor to one of the window edges. The mouse cursor will turn into an arrow with a bar, and you can drag the edge outward to expand it. This is similar to the way resizing windows in Microsoft Windows works. You can also move the mouse to one of the corners and do the same thing to adjust the window size both horizontally and vertically simultaneously.

Question: Why is the panel at the bottom of the screen called "Gnome"?

Answer: GNOME apparently stands for "GNU Object Model Environment." The "GNU" stands for "GNU's Not UNIX." It refers to the GNU Project <<http://www.gnu.org>>, which develops free UNIX-based software.

Question: My task list on the Gnome panel disappeared! How can I get it back?

Answer: Occasionally, the Gnome panel will randomly disappear, but it's easy to restore it. To do so, right-click an empty section of the panel, and choose Add to Panel → Applet → Utili-

ty → Task list.

Question: Can you add menus to the main Gnome menu?

Answer: The main Gnome menu is shared by all Athena users and is not tied to a specific user account. Therefore, you cannot change the main Gnome menu. However, there is a sub-menu named Favorites, which you can add items to.

To do this, click Menu (footprint icon) → Settings → Edit Menus (Favorites). You can then click New Submenu or New Item to create items within the Favorites menu.

Question: How do you change what the panel buttons do?

Answer: The buttons on the panel at the bottom of the screen are customizable. To customize a button, right click on it and select Properties. The action of the button (called a Launcher) is controlled by the Command field. If you change the command to be a program that runs in a terminal, you should check the "Run in Terminal" box. So, for example, to make the Mail button run the mail program mutt from the sipb locker, rather than Evolution, you would do the following:

1. Right click on the Mail button, select Properties.
2. Change Command to "athrun sipb mutt"
3. Check the "Run in Terminal" checkbox.

The athrun command takes two arguments: the name of a locker and a program to run from that locker. It can be very helpful when customizing Launcher buttons.

Question: How do you revert the Gnome panel to the

default?

Answer: If you have greatly messed up your Gnome panel, you can restore it to the default. To do so, type the following:

```
athena% cd
athena% rm -rf .gnome/panel.d
```

Then, log out and log back in, and your Gnome panel should be reset.

Question: Can you change the resolution on Athena?

Answer: The X window system (at least the more stable versions running on Athena) does not support changing resolutions on the fly the way that Mac and Windows do. It is designed to be run at the ideal resolution for the video card and display, and left alone. Of course, it is possible to reconfigure X to run at a different resolution, but that is outside the scope of this column.

If your real problem is difficulty reading text on your screen, consider changing your font size. This can be through the preferences settings of many programs, such as Terminal and Mozilla, or on a context menu (control-right-click in xterm, or shift-left-click in Emacs). In certain cases, if you want to zoom in on a small portion of the screen, the program xmag can be helpful.

To ask us a question, send e-mail to <sipb@mit.edu>. We'll try to answer you quickly, and we might address your question in our next column. Copies of each column and pointers to additional information will be posted on our Web site at <<http://www.mit.edu/~asksipb/>>.

THE ARTS

A Production of Only Hamlets



Hamlets, Dramashop's latest production, opens this weekend with a unique interpretation of the Shakespearean play: all of the characters on stage are Hamlet, and other characters are played through Hamlet's perspective.

Clockwise from top:

Claudius poisons his brother, Hamlet's father, to steal his kingdom and wife.

Virginia L. Corless '05 acts out Ophelia as she drowns herself.

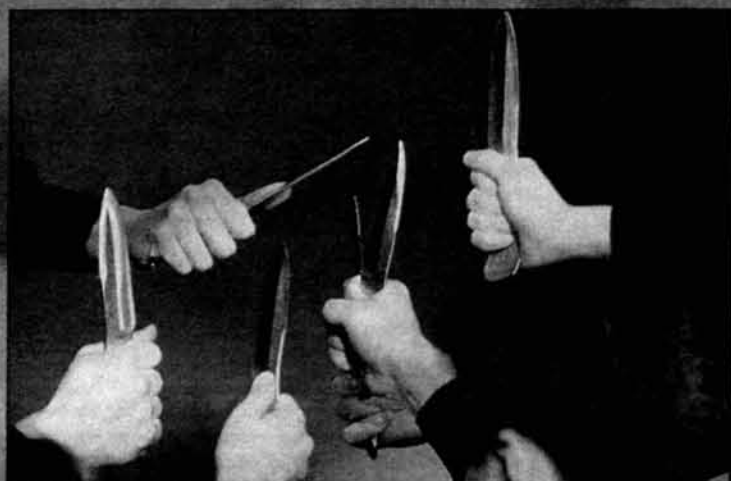
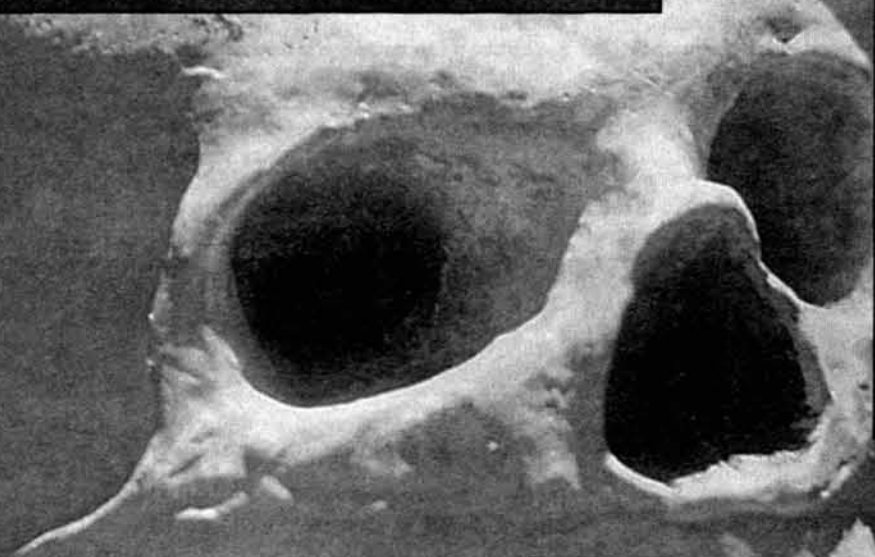
Hanyin H. Lin '04 as Claudius.

Virginia L. Corless '05, as Hamlet, contemplates.

The eight Hamlets make a common decision to kill their uncle Claudius.

Hanyin H. Lin '04 plays Hamlet gone mad.

Photographs by Aaron D. Mihalik and Dong Wang



Clubs

Axis

13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437
Sundays: See Avalon below.
Mondays: *Static*. Gay, casual dress. \$5, 18+.
Thursdays: *Chrome/Skybar*. Progressive house, soul, disco; dress code \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Avalon.
Saturdays: *X-night* (rock, alternative, techno, hip-hop) downstairs and *Move* (techno) upstairs.

Avalon

15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424
Sundays: *Gay Night* (with Axis on long weekends). Featuring hardcore house and techno. \$10, 21+.
Thursdays: *International Night*. Eurohouse. \$10, 19+.
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Axis. House. \$15, 19+.
Saturdays: *Downtown*. Modern house, club classics, and Top 40 hits. \$15, 21+.

Karma Club

9 Lansdowne St., 617-421-9595
Sundays: "Current dance favorites" by guest DJs. Cover varies.
Tuesdays: *Phatt Tuesdays*. With Bill's Bar, modern dance music. \$10.
Wednesdays: *STP*. Gay-friendly, house. \$15, 21+.
Thursdays: *Groove Factor*. House.
Fridays: *Spin cycle*. Prog. house. 19+.
Saturdays: *Elements of Life*. International House. \$15.

ManRay

21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400
Wednesdays: *Curses*. Goth. Appropriate dress required. \$5, 19+; \$3, 21+.
Thursdays: *Campus*. Popular tunes, House. Gay, casual dress. \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Fantasy Factory* (First and third Friday of the month. Features kinky fetishes and industrial music.) *Hell Night* (every second Friday.) 19+. Includes Goth music. *Ooze* (the last Friday of the month.) \$10, 21+. Reduced prices for those wearing fetish gear.
Saturdays: *Liquid*. Disco/house and New Wave. \$15, 19+; \$10, 21+.

Popular Music

Axis

13 Lansdowne St., Boston, MA. 617-262-2437

Feb. 11: 40 Below Summer
Feb. 14: Trust Company
Feb. 16: Clutch
Feb. 21: Big D and the Kids Table
Feb. 25: American Hi-Fi
Mar. 2: Killswitch Engaged
Mar. 5: Trapt
Mar. 13: CKY
Mar. 21: Hot Rod Circuit

Avalon

15 Lansdowne St., Boston, MA. 617-262-2424

Feb. 15: Steve Earle and the Dukes
Feb. 19: Nick Carter, Justincase
Feb. 22: Hatebreed, Biohazard
Mar. 1: Hatebreed, Biohazard
Mar. 6: Interpol
Mar. 7: Sum 41
Mar. 9: Saliva, Hed (pe), Breaking Benjamin, Systematic
Mar. 14-17: Dropkick Murphys

Berklee Performance Center

Berklee College of Music, 1140 Boylston St., Boston, MA.
Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some weekdays. For info on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 617-266-2261.

Mar. 15-16: Sigur Ros

Club Passim

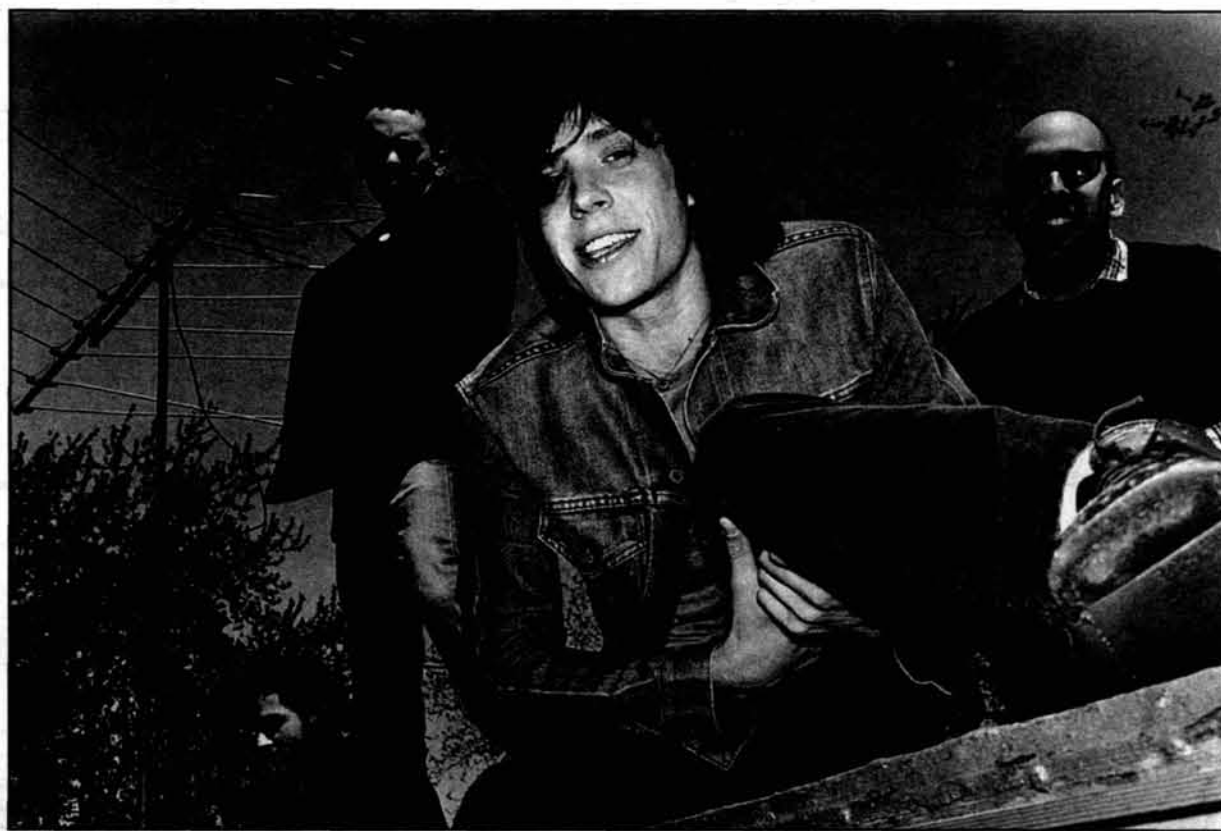
47 Palmer St., Cambridge, MA. 617-492-7679
Tuesdays: *Open Mic* at 8 p.m. (sign up at 7:30). \$5. See <http://www.clubpassim.com> for complete schedule

Feb. 7: Bill Cuddyer, Peter Donnelly
Feb. 8: Nick Danger, Sonny Aruba
Feb. 9: Richard Cambridge's Poet Theatre presents PRESENTE!
Feb. 12: Rachel McCartney, Julie Rosenthal, Rob Laurens
Feb. 13: Alastair Mook
Feb. 14: Brooks Williams

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
February 7 - 14, 2003
Compiled by Devdoot Majumdar

Send submissions to <ott@the-tech.mit.edu> or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.



JUSTINE PARSONS

This Saturday, the poppy and mellow OK Go (above) join garage girls The Donnas at Avalon. Doors at 8, tickets are \$14, and the show is 18+.

Feb. 15-6: Kris Delmhurst
Feb. 19: Beth Amsel

FleetCenter

One FleetCenter, Boston, MA. 617-931-2787

Mar. 4: Bon Jovi, Goo Goo Dolls
Apr. 1: Tim McGraw

The Middle East

Central Square, 617-354-8238
Ticketmaster: 617-931-2787.
Venue has two floors. Upstairs (U), Downstairs (D)
<<http://www.mideastclub.com>>

Feb. 7: Suicide, Calla
Feb. 8: Seether, Must, Socialburn
Feb. 9: Apples in Stereo
Feb. 10: Zoo 88
Feb. 11: The Blood Brothers
Feb. 12: Ainty, Aloud, Reuben
Feb. 13: The Rapture, Outhud
Feb. 14: Babaloo's Family Circus
Feb. 15: Willie Alexander
Feb. 16: Grandmaster Flash
Feb. 17: Rasputina, Incus
Feb. 18: Confront, Dirty Water
Feb. 19: Nada Surf, Sondre Lerche
Feb. 20: Mr. Lif, Akrobatik
Feb. 21: J. Mascis + the Fog
Feb. 22: Jiggle, Psychedelic Breakfast, Mamacita
Feb. 23: Trocadero, The Juitter Project
Feb. 24: Irepress, Sunset is a Battle
Feb. 26: Cohead and Cambria, One Line Drawing, Hopesfall
Feb. 27: Max Creek, Uncle Sammy
Feb. 28: Sex Mob, Beat Science, Dresden Dolls
Mar. 1: Lustra, Causeway
Mar. 2: DJ Krush, Seishi
Mar. 4: The Dubnicks, Roxie
Mar. 5: Plain White T's
Mar. 6: Redshift 6

Orpheum Theatre

1 Hamilton Pl., Boston, MA. 617-679-0810

Feb. 8: The Pretenders
Feb. 22: Paul Weller
Mar. 3: Hall & Oates
Mar. 8: King Crimson
Mar. 9: Scorpions, Whitesnake

Apr. 13: Dave Chapelle
Apr. 15: Widespread Panic
Apr. 19: Ellen Degeneres

Paradise Rock Club

967 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA. 617-562-8804

Feb. 7: Dead Prez
Feb. 8: The Donnas, OK Go
Feb. 14: Vince Gill
Feb. 15: Witness Protection Program
Feb. 20: Jeffrey Gaines
Feb. 21: Ladytron
Feb. 22: The Music
Feb. 23: Sixpence None the Richer
Feb. 26: Blonde Redhead
Feb. 27: Machinery Hall
Feb. 28: Robert Randolph
Mar. 2: Gang Green
Mar. 4: Supergrass
Mar. 5: Idlewild
Mar. 7: The Frames, Josh Ritter
Mar. 8: The Sheila Divine
Mar. 9: John Parish
Mar. 12: Mason Jennings
Mar. 14: Reid Genuer
Mar. 16: Roysopp
Mar. 21: Calexico
Mar. 23: The Soundtrack of our Lives
Mar. 27: Edwin McCain
Mar. 29: Partice
Apr. 3: Percy Hill
Apr. 4: Joe Jackson Band
Apr. 24: Adult
May 16L Steve Malkmus

Tsongas Arena

300 Arcand Dr., Lowell, MA. 978-848-6900.

Mar. 21: Disturbed, Chevelle, Taproot, Unloco

TT The Bear's

10 Brookline St., Cambridge, MA. 617-931-2000.
<<http://www.ttthebears.com>>

Feb. 7: The Queers, Teen Idols
Feb. 8: Lincoln Conspiracy
Feb. 9: Stick Pig
Feb. 10: Punk Rock Aerobics Poetry Slamdance
Feb. 11: These Bones
Feb. 12: The Pleasure Club

Feb. 13: MC Paul Barman
Feb. 15: Jim's Big Ego
Feb. 16: Five of One

Worcester's Centrum Centre

50 Foster St., Worcester, MA. 508-755-6800

<<http://www.centrumcentre.com>>

Feb. 26: Phish
May 2: Cher, Dom Irrera
Jun. 13: Bill Gaither Homecoming

Jazz

Regattabar

1 Bennett St., Cambridge, MA. 617-662-5000, <<http://www.regattabar.com>> Usually two shows nightly, call for details.

Feb. 7: Lee Konitz trio
Feb. 11: Lazlo Gardony Trio
Feb. 12: Fully Celebrated Orchestra
Feb. 13: Rusty Scott Quartet
Feb. 14-15: A Valentine from Irma Thomas
Feb. 16: Boston Musical Theatre
Feb. 18: Guaranteed Swahili
Feb. 19: Marta Gomez and Friends
Feb. 20-22: Ron Carter Quartet
Feb. 23: David Zoffer, Adam Larrabee
Feb. 25: Michael Musillami/Mario Pavone Quintet
Feb. 26: Eric T. Johnson Quartet
Feb. 27: Mark Shilansky Ensemble
Feb. 28: Jose De Santos Flamenco Trio

Ryles Jazz Club

212 Hampshire St., Cambridge, MA. 617-876-9330
Venue has two floors. Upstairs (U), Downstairs (D)
<<http://rylesjazz.com>>

Feb. 7: Chick Corea Tribute Band
Feb. 8: Richie Cole
Feb. 9: Jazz Brunch
Feb. 11: Bob Brookmeyer & NEC Composer's Orchestra
Feb. 12: Indigo Invention Group
Feb. 13: Temporada Latina
Feb. 14: Toni Ballard

Feb. 15: Planet Groove
Feb. 18: Peter Cicco
Feb. 19: SynCoPation
Feb. 20: Mice McAllister Group
Feb. 22: Groove Authroity
Feb. 23: Amazon Poetry Slam

Scullers Jazz Club

DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, 617-562-4111. <<http://www.scullersjazz.com>>. Call for schedule.

Feb. 7-8: Gary Burton, Makoto Ozone Duet
Feb. 12: Follen Angels
Feb. 13: Al Kooper
Feb. 14-15: Jon Lucien
Feb. 25: Erica Leopold
Feb. 26-27: Guitar Summit: Bucky Pizzarelli, Howard Alden, John Wheatley
Feb. 28-Mar. 1: Marian McPartland Trio
Mar. 4: Shelley Neil
Mar. 5: Sai Ghose
Mar. 6: The Nicole Nelson Band
Mar. 7-8: Keiko Matsui
Mar. 12: La timba Loca
Mar. 13-15: Abbey Lincoln
Mar. 19: Melissa Walker, Stefon Harris
Mar. 20: Stanley Jordan
Mar. 21-22: TS Monk, Jr. Sextet

Classical Music

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Tickets: 617-266-1492.
Performances at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, unless otherwise noted. Student rush tickets, if available, can be obtained at 5 p.m. on the day of the concert (one ticket per person).
<<http://www.bso.org>>

Conductor Leonard Slatkin leads the BSO with violinist Hilary Hahn in Berlioz' Overture to *Benvenuto Cellini*, Meyer's Violin Concerto, and Walton's Symphony No. 1. Feb. 7 (1:30 p.m.), and Feb. 8 (8 p.m.).

Alan Gilbert conducts with violinist Midori in Kirchner's Music for Orchestra II, Schumann's Symphony No. 3 *Rhenish*, and Sibelius' Violin Concerto. Presented on Feb. 12 (7:30 p.m.), 14 (1:30 p.m.), 15 (8 p.m.), and 18 (8 p.m.).

FleetBoston Celebrity Series

20 Park Plaza, Suite 1032, Boston, MA 02116. 617-482-2595. Venues vary by concert, consult Web site for further details. <<http://www.celebrity-series.org>>

Feb. 8: Stanislav Ioudenich
Feb. 9: Cleveland Orchestra
Feb. 14: Emerson String Quartet
Feb. 23: Richard Goode
Feb. 28: Vienna Philharmonic
Mar. 2: Tokyo String Quartet
Mar. 3: Ellis Marsalis & Sons
Mar. 8-9: Boston Marquee, Boston Musica Viva: "Chitra"
Mar. 11: Kudo
Mar. 12: The Chieftains
Mar. 13: Mark Morris Dance Grp
Mar. 15: Boston Marquee, Margaret Lattimore
Mar. 21: Brandenburg Ensemble
Mar. 22: William Bolcom

Theater

Comedy Connection

Mon.-Wed. at 8 p.m.; Thurs. 8:30 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; Sun. 7 p.m. The oldest comedy club in Boston. At 245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston. Admission \$8-20. Call 617-248-9700 or visit <<http://www.comedyconnectionboston.com>>.

Exhibits

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston. (617-566-1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$10 (\$11 on weekends), \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students with ID (\$3 on Wed.), free for children under 18. The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2,500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler. Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617-267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID.

Currently on exhibit until Oct. 20 is "Jasper Johns to Jeff Koons: Four Decades of Art from the Broad Collections," an exploration of contemporary artists ranging from those named above to Warhol to Lichtenstein.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston. (617-723-2500), Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors. The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors.

Other

Harvard Film Archive

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617-267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; check <<http://www.harvardfilmarchive.org>> for more details.

All the resources you need are just 5 numbers away (10 if you're off-campus)...

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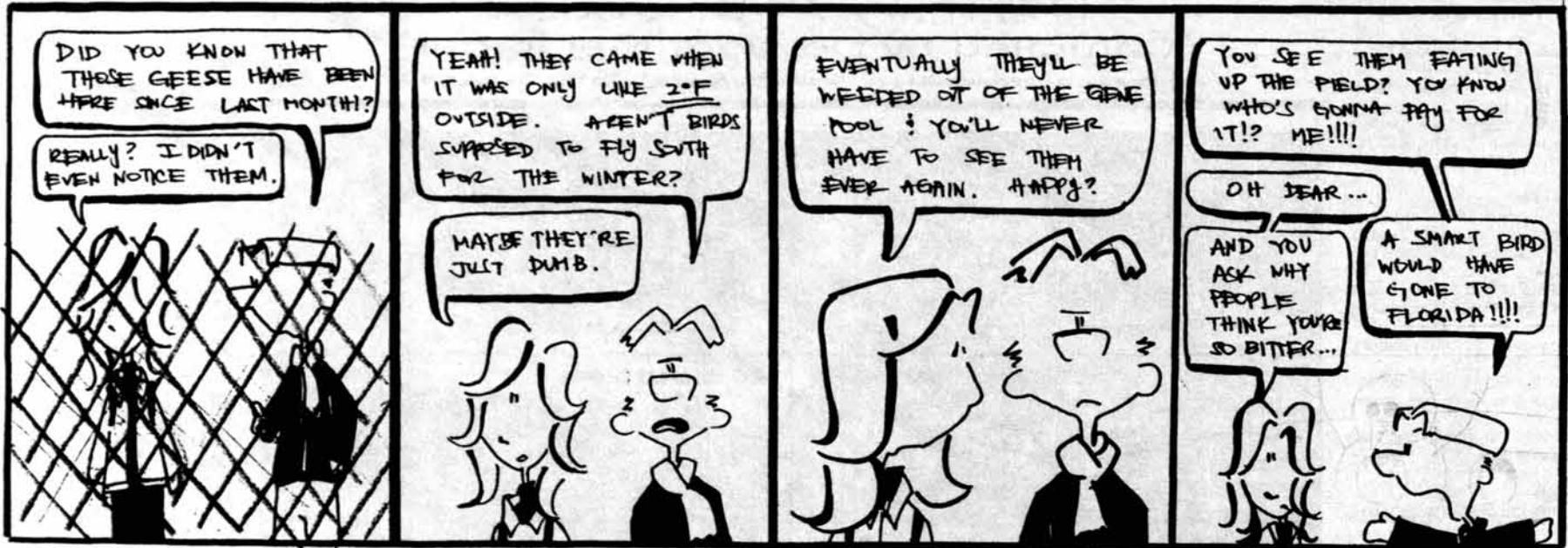
CALL NIGHTLINE!

3880

COMICS FUN PAGES

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10

POOPLIES & POOPLINGS by: Nancy



Filler Space

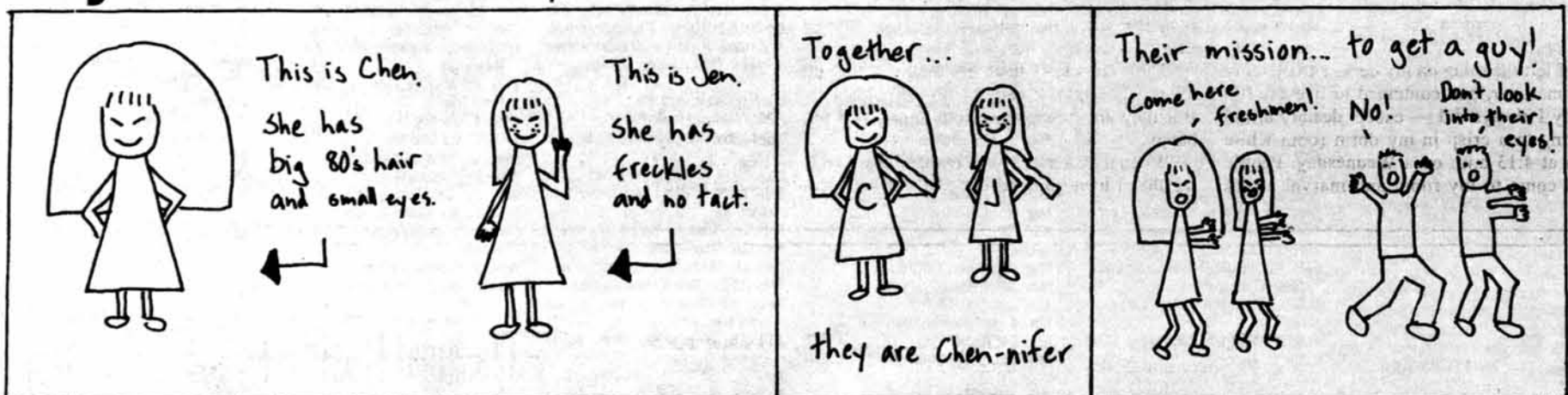


"GOAT MEAL"

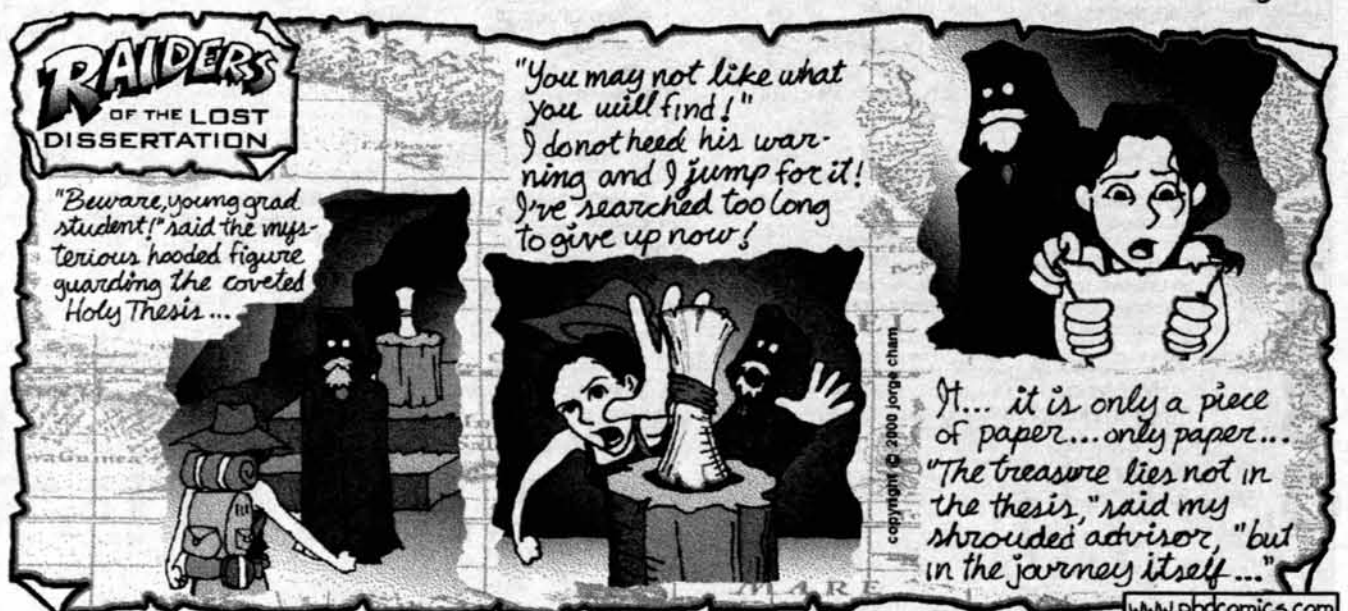


Hay Fever

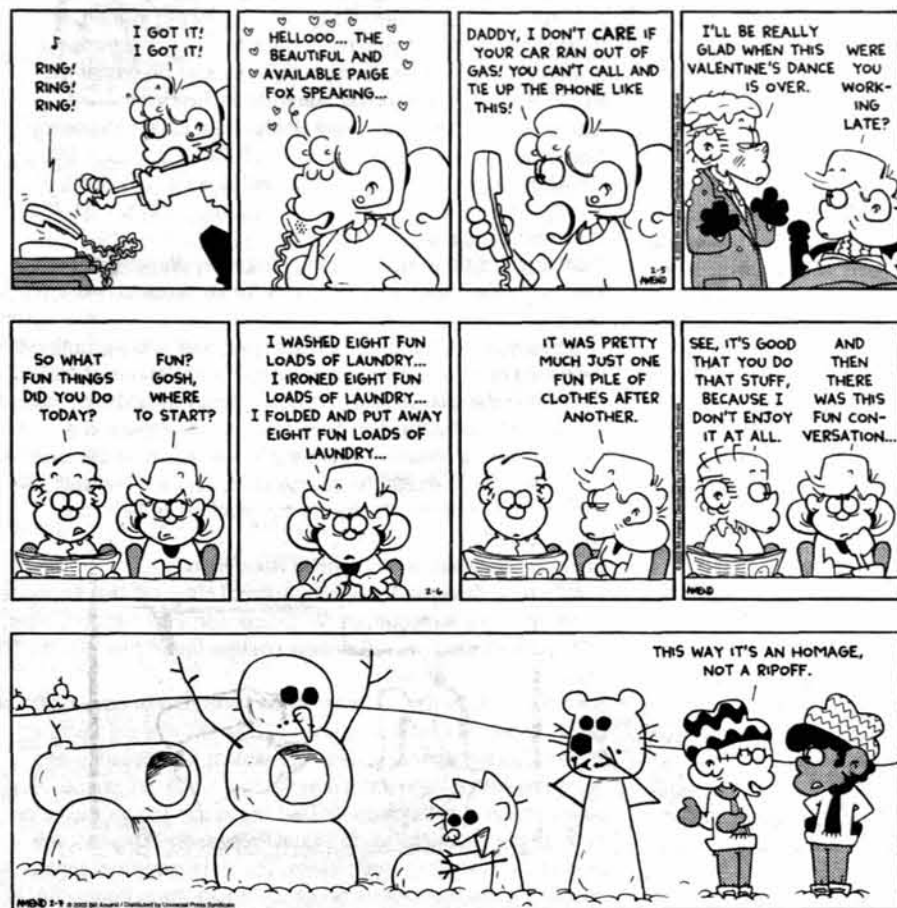
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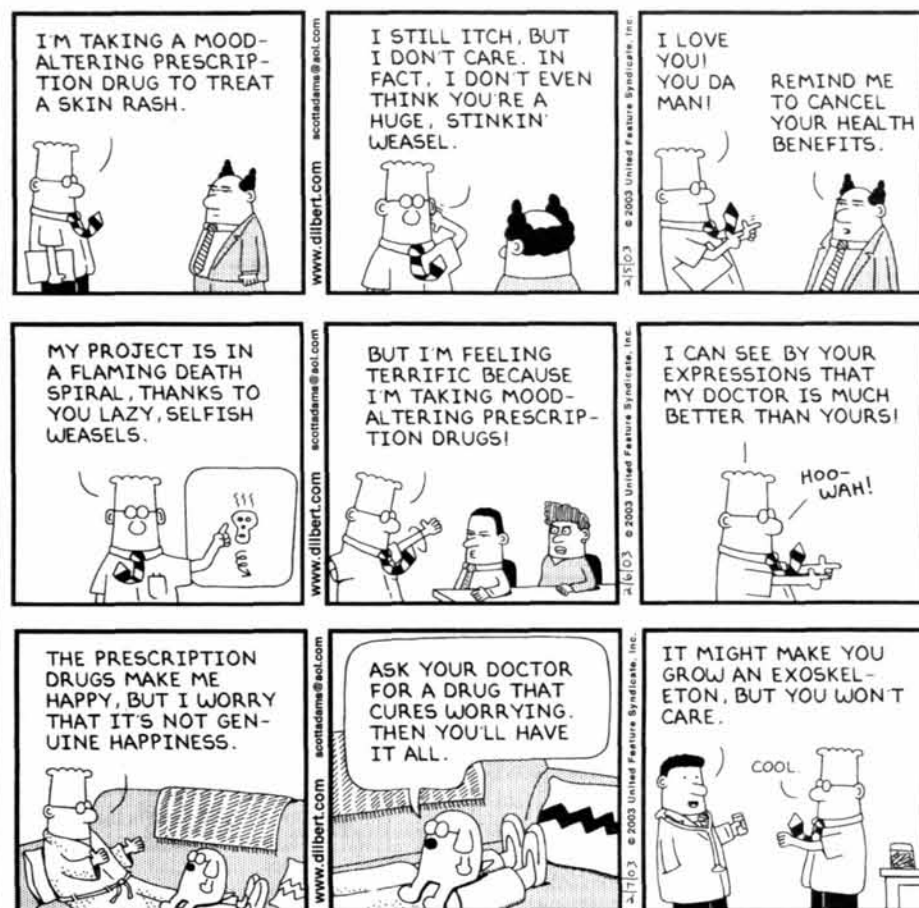
PILED HIGHER AND
DEEPER



FoxTrot by Bill Amend



Dilbert by Scott Adams



Down the Hatchet

Exposing My Psyche

By Akshay Patil
COLUMNIST

I have a new smoke detector in my room. It is a behemoth of a device that hangs on my ceiling and winks — err, blinks at me. A few weeks ago, a bunch of nice men came into my room and stuck it on my ceiling; since then I have lived in fear. Granted, I was living in fear before the ceiling monster took up residence in my room. But that was a different kind of fear — a healthier, purer kind of fear.

A few months ago, my smaller, gentler, yellower smoke detector went crazy. It started beeping something crazy and would just not shut up. Even after leaving my window open for numerous hours (dropping the room temperature to a delicious 3 degrees Fahrenheit) the blasted thing would go off every time I plugged it in. This made me a big hit with the neighbors.

So I left the thing on my desk, e-mailed my house manager, and continued to live my life the way I always did — except deathly afraid of frying to a crisp in my dorm room while asleep at 4:13 a.m. on a Wednesday. People would come to my room and marvel at my

dare-devil behavior and dashing good looks. But despite my calm demeanor, my psyche and inner child were taking turns peeing in their pants (do psyche even have pants? And if not, does that mean they're naked? Questions abound).

Well, as you can imagine, two and a half months, three e-mails, and a personal request later, I was still in a healthy state of paralyzing fear. True, I was being selfish, since constant terror is luxury compared to what my house manager must have been suffering from — some sort of combination of blindness, deafness, and/or short-term amnesia. Not necessarily in that order. But call me self-centered, I was rather keen on not dying.

That's when I decided to take drastic action. Since compliance with Cambridge fire-code was obviously not a high priority for my apparently still-ailing house manager, I threw caution to the wind and asked my local friendly maintenance guy if he could remedy my situation — death.

Three days later there are men standing on my no-shoes-please carpet with their shoes on. But they are freeing me from angst, so I am happy.

When they leave, I have realized that I realize that I have jumped out of the frying pan

into someplace that is uncomfortably warm, but is certainly not fire and really is quite an improvement over the frying pan. I now have a smoke detector once again and I would greet it with open arms if it weren't so damn high and so damn scary looking. Seriously. It's like the biggest smoke detector I've ever seen. They told me it was "better," where apparently "better" is lingo for "freaking ass huge." I'm scared to eat spicy food now because I swear heartburn will set the thing off.

But it's a better fear now; a gentler fear; a less morbid fear. In fact, let's call it a "trepidation" because merriam-webster.com says that "trepidation" is a synonym for "fear" and you have to admit, "trepidation" is a much cooler word than "fear." "Trepidation" never got picked last for kickball or got zits in high school... but I digress.

Anyways, this trepidation stuff is great. I no longer dream of dying in a huge spontaneous inferno; instead I dream that my huge smoke detector will fall off the ceiling and crush me to death. Somehow that makes me feel better. Don't ask me why. Maybe it's because I'm exaggerating and my new smoke detector really isn't that big and is just unsettlingly large. Or maybe it's because I started flossing more regularly. I guess time will tell.

Even EZ-er than 1040EZ.



Introducing TeleFile from the IRS. If you are single and filed Form 1040EZ last year, you can file your tax return in ten minutes by phone. Anytime. Check your tax booklet for information.

TeleFile
It's free. It's fast. It works.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Changing for good.

This space donated by The Tech

Crossword Puzzle

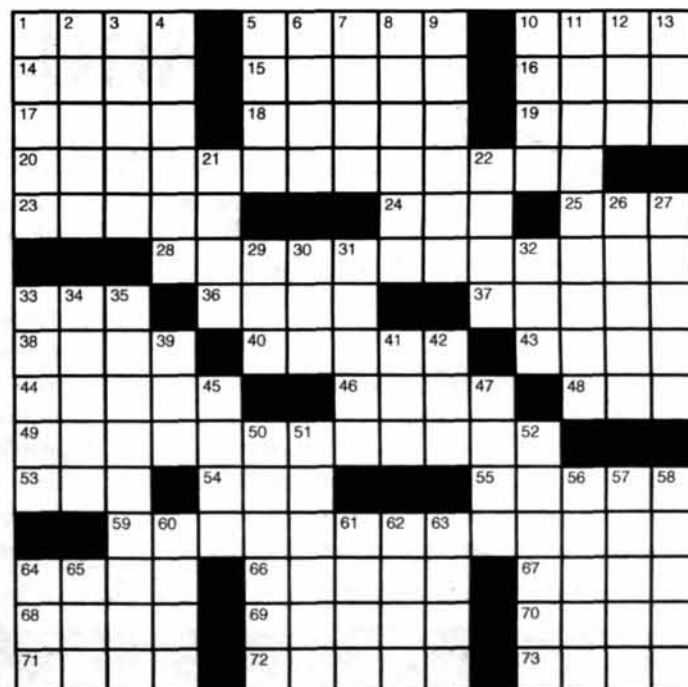
Solution, page 14

ACROSS
1 Gradual
5 Classic violin
10 Son of Eliel Saarinen
14 Director Wertmuller
15 Altercation
16 Go a round with?
17 List-shortening abbr.
18 Popped the question
19 Questionable contraction?
20 Benevolent
23 Spanish bulls
24 Kanga's joey
25 McBain and McMahon
28 Of a symphony
33 Meat cut
36 Sandusky's lake
37 Aristo's father

38 Gillette razor
40 Razor sharpener
43 Western lily
44 Flaking
46 River to the Baltic
48 Gat
49 Split-leaf houseplant
53 Equivalent wd.
54 Eur. country
55 Puccini opera
59 Full of wisdom
64 Jai
66 Kennedy cabinet member
67 Organize
68 Silent signal
69 Mason's Street
70 Designer, born Romain de Tirtoff
71 —majesty
72 Bacon or Lamb paper
73 Clairvoyant

DOWN
1 Dropped off
2 Stone: pref.
3 Studio sign
4 Thrash
5 Island group off Galway
6 Have to
7 Egyptian cross
8 —del Fuego
9 Within a building
10 Morales of "La Bamba"
11 Focal point
12 Flowed
13 Food scrap
21 U.S. tennis stadium honoree
22 Stately display
26 Muralist Rivera
27 Catch of the day
29 April 15 grp.
30 Ignited
31 Wading bird

32 PAU's successor
33 Abrasive tools
34 In need of more scratch?
35 Craniums
39 That's — folks!
41 Quaint
42 For each
45 Hindu mystic
47 Author of "Portnoy's Complaint"
50 Mislead
51 Wears away
52 Clamorings
56 Twenty
57 —blanche
58 Change
60 Pleasure trek
61 Maglie and Mineo
62 —podrida
63 Act as
64 Leather punch
65 Abandon truth



Events Calendar

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Friday, February 7

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour. Student Led Campus Tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions Information Session. The Campus Tour begins in Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

1:10 p.m. - 1:50 p.m. – Muslim Friday Prayer. Weekly congregational prayer for Muslims. People of other faiths welcome to attend. Email msa-ec@mit.edu for more information. free. Room: W11-110. Sponsor: Muslim students' Association.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

4:00 p.m. – Rennie Harris Puremovement Dance Company. Rennie Harris and his company are well versed in the vernacular of hip-hop, popping, locking, stepping, Break, house, and other styles that have emerged from the African-American and Latino communities of inner city America. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Paul Pfeiffer: Opening Reception. This is the most substantial exhibition to date devoted to Paul Pfeiffer's video, photography, and sculpture. Pfeiffer's work addresses the many problematic aspects of present and future worlds dominated by astonishing revolutions in visual representation, while exploring universal themes of identity, race, and culture, often through imagery from sports, film, and popular culture. free. Room: List Visual Arts Center. Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

7:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. – MIT Anime Club showing. Join us as we show a mixture of brand new and classic works from Japan's famed animators. Films about giant robots and big hair, but also films about romance, growing up, and some truly bizarre comedy. free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

7:30 p.m. – Women's Ice Hockey vs. Sacred Heart University. free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

8:00 p.m. – Star Wars: Musical Edition. World premiere of musical by Rogue Shindler and Jeff Seuss (original lyrics and script adaptation), graduate student Stephen Peters (music arranger). Based on the film "Star Wars: A New Hope" by George Lucas. \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

8:00 p.m. – Hamlets. Dramashop's deconstruction of Shakespeare's drama, directed by Janet Sonenberg. A theatrical experiment designed to explore issues in Shakespeare's challenging play about existence, identity, memory, choice, responsibility, leadership, and relationships. We take the protagonist and make him truly central: there are only Hamlets on

stage, and all of the other characters are played as projections of Hamlet's perception and memory. \$8, \$6 students. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

Saturday, February 8

12:00 p.m. – Men's & Women's Indoor Track & Field Greater Boston Championship. free. Room: Johnson Indoor Track. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Paul Pfeiffer: Artist Talk. Paul Pfeiffer: His solo exhibition viewed at the List Visual Arts Center. The Artist will give a talk about his work of art. free. Room: List Visual Arts Center Gallery. Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

2:00 p.m. – Women's Basketball vs. Smith. free. Room: Rockwell Cage. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

3:30 p.m. – Women's Ice Hockey vs. Sacred Heart University. free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

5:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – Panhellenic Recruitment. Panhellenic Recruitment Begins! Want to know more about MIT's 5 National Sororities? Come check us out- recruitment is your best opportunity to explore the benefits and rewards of sorority membership. Registration is required and free- visit our website for more information. Panhel Recruitment: Because Life is Not a Spectator Sport! free. Room: Student Center. Sponsor: Panhellenic Association, MIT, Student Life Programs.

8:00 p.m. – Star Wars: Musical Edition. \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

8:00 p.m. – Hamlets. \$8, \$6 students. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

Sunday, February 9

12:00 p.m. – Gallery Talk: Paul Pfeiffer. Gallery talk with Hiroko Kikuchi, education/outreach coordinator, presented in conjunction with exhibit

on view Feb 6-April 6. free. Room: List Visual Arts Center (E15-109). Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

5:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – Panhellenic Recruitment. free. Room: Student Center. Sponsor: Panhellenic Association, MIT, Student Life Programs.

Monday, February 10

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Mac OS X Quick Start. This quick start gives an overview of how email works at MIT and the different email protocols that are available. Supported programs for

use at MIT are described, along with pros and cons of choosing one over the other, brief instructions on getting started, and pointers to more information. The spam email problem and what can and can't be done about it will also be presented. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. – Real Deals: Real Estate Presentations. Project presentation: Maplecroft Farm, Boylston, MA: Housing: Senior, Affordable, Modular Housing With Steve Stuntz, President, Greentech Housing. free. Room: W31-301. Sponsor: Center for Real Estate.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Learning Together-Working Together. This course provides an opportunity for students to develop a deep

understanding of the personal, inter-personal and institutional dynamics of race, ethnic and cross-cultural relations at MIT, practice in the skills needed to work effectively and lead diverse groups and teams, and an opportunity to participate in a focused project aimed at improving some aspect of campus race relations. Through the course participants will: Acquire an understanding of the history of race relations at MIT. free. Room: 5-231.

Sponsor: Committee on Campus Race Relations.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Rainbow Lounge Open. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT.

3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Does Texas Instruments have a "D" or an "I" in Signal Processing? An RLE at MIT Special Lecture: Digital Signal Processing was born almost four decades ago. What required a large room now fits in a small cell phone. New algorithms and technology for DSP are leading to an explosion of applications using Digital Signal Processors. This talk will look at the emerging applications, the technology that makes it possible and speculations about the future. free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: Research Lab of Electronics.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – "Keeping the Niggers Out": Policing the Racial Boundaries of the American Medical Association, 1847-1870. Program in Science, Technology, and Society Colloquium. free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: STS.

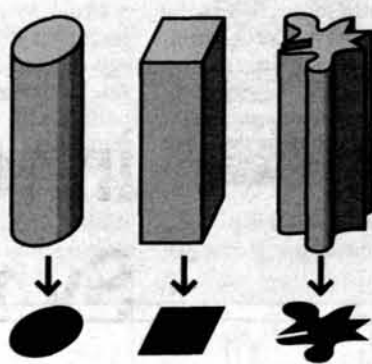
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Embedded curves in 3-folds and the GV conjecture. free. Room: 2-143. Sponsor: Differential Geometry Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

5:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – Panhellenic Recruitment. free. Room: Student Center. Sponsor: Panhellenic Association, MIT, Student Life Programs.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor. MIT Program on Human Rights and Justice Fall Speaker Series. free. Room: E38, 7th Floor Conference Room. Sponsor: Program on Human Rights & Justice.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Teambuilding Dinner - General and Mentors. free. Room: Walker Memorial. Sponsor: MIT \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition.

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Future Committee To Recommend Changes

Report, from Page 1

the residence orientation program; the timeframe for the formal aspects of the FSILG recruitment process; the issue of room squatting; and, ways to support and develop some of the under-subscribed theme houses to increase student participation."

The RSIT report "doesn't have any recommendations about how to change those things," Gray said. "That will go to a new committee. A new group will make those sorts of decisions."

Redwine said that he and Benedict are working on a plan for the new group, which will also help plan next year's residence selection.

'Room squatting' raises eyebrows

One senior student government officer, who asked not to be named, said he was disappointed with the inclusion of "room squatting" in the list of "areas for resolution" in the report.

"That's not the way we've considered it at all," he said. "We've had Dean Benedict sign off on the joint UA-DormCon proposal that there is no room squatting," he said.

"Room squatting," a practice not present in 2002, refers to the ability of freshmen to choose to remain in the dormitory room assigned to them over the summer and occupied by them during orientation week.

Benedict could not be reached for comment.

Another practice that was first available to freshmen in 2002 — the ability to remain in the dormitory they were assigned over the summer — was not examined by the RSIT report, despite the general position of student organizations and living groups against it. This option, known as "dorm squatting," was exercised

by 82 percent of freshmen.

Kessenich said the RSIT did not view changing "dorm squatting" to be an option. "If you want to go by the Bacow report," dorm squatting is a requirement of the new system, she said.

"I don't think the issue any more is the Bacow report," Redwine said. "It's where we are now," he said, adding that dorm squatting had been successful in allowing freshmen to select their housing over the summer.

The "Bacow report" is the December 1999 document *The Design of the New Residence System* by former Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72. The "new residence system" was the first to incorporate the controversial 1998 "freshmen-on-campus" decision and was first put into place in the fall of 2002, after Bacow's July 2001 departure to become the president of Tufts University.

But changing parts of the system, even those prescribed by the report, remains an option, Redwine said. "I don't think any report is inviolable."

Draft omits mention of petition

In November, Kessenich spearheaded the Dormitory Council's petition drive for dormitory selection to be "brought back as an uninterrupted multiday event."

Kessenich said about 500 students signed the petition, but that it was never formally presented at a meeting of the RSIT because the team "only met sporadically," she said.

The draft report leaves out any mention of the petition, although it does mention the question of "the appropriate and desirable length and structure of the residence orientation program" in its list of questions that will evidently be considered by the new, as yet unnamed and unformed, group.

Candidates To Seek Signatures

Elections, from Page 1

candidate for the position of VP. "Being UA vice president would give me more power than I have now to fix certain issues," he said.

David B. Gottlieb '04 is running for UA president with Karen M. Keller '04.

"I'm running to make MIT more fun. ... We want to bring fresh new ideas," said Gottlieb.

An important issue for Gottlieb and Keller is instituting daytime SafeRide.

Running mates Jacob W. Faber '04 and Pius A. Uzamere II '04 aren't sure if they're going to run yet, but attended the meeting in order to be eligible.

Candidates need signatures

All candidates must submit signed petitions in order to officially be listed as candidates. Candidates for UA president and vice president are required to submit 430 signatures, while class council candidates must submit 105 signatures from students in their class.

"My experience has been that a lot of the people who don't take the whole thing seriously are turned off by the signatures," said UA President Josiah D. Seale '03. "That's the whole point: to ensure that committed people are the ones running for the job."

The candidates must also submit signed statements of candidacy, platforms, and photos.

Candidates may not start campaigning until Feb. 21, when all forms are due and an official list of candidates will be released.

Class council candidates excited

Elizabeth A. Witham '05, candidate for president of the class of 2005, said that she hasn't had the time to be as involved as she'd like, and is "really excited about getting an opportunity to make some

changes" at the Institute, she said.

"This is a good opportunity to get involved, because the UA deals with the entire student body rather than just a small group," said Hannah Choe '06, a candidate for class of 2006 treasurer.

UA elections will be held March

6-11.

In addition to UA president and vice president, the positions of 2004, 2005, and 2006 class council officers, president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, social chairs, and publicity chairs, are also being contested.

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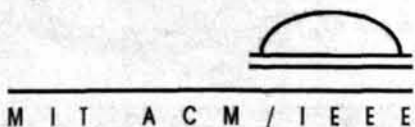
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Fewer Prospectives Interested in EECS

By Kathy Lin
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The number of prospective freshmen listing Course VI (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) as their "intended major" dropped noticeably in this year's applicant pool. Freshman application numbers remained largely unchanged otherwise.

Fewer students pick Course VI

"Overall numbers within Course VI are roughly 19 percent lower than they have been in the past," said Elizabeth S. Johnson, associate director of admissions. "That has little to do with MIT and just reflects the current economy," she said.

The decreased interest in EECS by prospective freshmen was mentioned at a faculty meeting, said EECS Professor Nancy A. Lynch. Lynch said, however, that undergraduate enrollment in Course VI classes hasn't changed significantly.

Application numbers down slightly

"The total number of applications we have for this year is 10,529," said Johnson. Of those, 3,573 were early action applica-

tions.

That number is about a 1.3 percent decrease from the 10,664 applications received last year. "These numbers are basically the same to us," Johnson said.

Enrollment target still unknown

Johnson said she does not yet know what the target number for Class of 2007 enrollment is, but expects it to "be somewhere around 1,000." Last year, the target was 980, she said.

However, "crowding is no longer an issue, and there are spaces in the dorms that are open at the moment. Simmons has made a difference," Johnson said.

Johnson said that the office plans on admitting "about as many students as last year, which was a little over a total of 1,700." The Institute has admitted 524 students already under the early action plan.

"We've been reading the applications like mad, but we haven't been admitting people yet. We'll begin that in the middle of February ... and we won't be mailing our letters out until around the third week of March," Johnson said.



WENDY GU—THE TECH
Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones peruses Class of 2007 applications in her office on Tuesday afternoon. Fewer applicants than usual indicated interest in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science this year.

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Gaggle Cops 123rd Tech Managing Board Elections

SPECIAL TO THE TECH

As the rain fell lightly upon the city streets, the lonely heiress trudged along, sobbing over her lost love.

"Why, God? Why did he have to die in that awful horse breeding accident?" Elsie shrieked, drawing looks from the few hurried passersby.

She came to an intersection and stepped out into the street without noticing the rapidly approaching car. As the car bore down on her, she collapsed into a pile of sobbing skin and silk.

Suddenly, out of a dark alley came a handsome man with a beret cocked jauntily on his head. He rushed into the street and scooped Elsie up into his strong arms, just before the car reached the place where she had lain. Once under the awning of a tall office building, she struggled out of his arms.

"Who are you? Why are you touching me?" she demanded, straightening her blood red silk gown.

"I hate to see a pretty lady in distress," he said in a thick French accent that melted her grief away.

"Oh my hero, take me to your love palace. I'm all yours," she said.

"I would be happy to oblige you, but I am late for The Tech's Managing Board elections. Would you mind if we took a slight detour?" he asked.

"Anything for you, my hunk of burning love," she said breathlessly.

He led her to a squat building that was designed well before humans learned how to build \$90 million buildings that absorb water. When they reached the southeast corner of the fourth floor, the smell of smoke and booze hit her like a speeding train.

Jean-Paul noticed her disgust. "It's a hard job," he said. "We indulge ourselves to forget our troubles."

bles."

At the meeting, the first election was for the supplier of vices herself, the chairwoman. Fun "I'm a Man" Lee campaigned with a platform of "Free Pot and Beer for All!" but the straight-laced managing board of MIT's official news organ chose Jyoti "Roachkiller" Tibrewala for the position.

The position of Editor in Chief was decided by a cage-match-of-death prior to the meeting. Fedora-wearing, whiskey-nursing Nathan "Pretty Boy" Collins was named EIC-in-waiting, and Jennifer "Cradle Robber" Krishnan retained the EIC title. The two have agreed not to be in the office at the same time, to prevent further maulings.

In a striking departure from previous practice, Ian "Honest Abe" Lai will continue to not steal The Tech's money as Business Manager.

Joy "Words are for Losers" Forsythe, who has been convicted of attempting to take over the world with her makeshift army of production staffers, was chosen for the Managing Editor position.

N'Sync groupie Keith "Tee-hee" Winstein took a chance and turned his speech into a fast-paced, highly-choreographed pop number about patent law. A copy of his speech can be heard on <http://lamp.mit.edu>. After his song, Winstein was elected News and Features Square.

"The coolest part about my position is that I get to control the weather," Winstein said.

When asked to compare his new bosses, Krishnan and Collins, Winstein quipped, "She's more of a girl than he'll ever be, big boy."

The board named Christine "Big Title for a Small" Fry news editor, but only after she agreed to supply The Tech's ketchup.

Collins, drunk and still pumped after his fight with Krishnan, challenged Fry to a death battle after he

was also elected news editor.

"Bring it on," Fry said.

Joel "You Can't Spell Puerto Rican without 'I Can'" Corbo and David "22 Is a Multiple of 4" Carpenter were selected as Production Revolutionaries. They were excited that they could continue to spend late nights in the mysterious prod shop, terrorizing tired news editors.

Ken "Breaking Windows Is Bad" Nesmith and Andrew "I Am Right, I Was Right, and I Always Will Be Right" Thomas were chosen as the new Opinion Editors. They will now carry the official S&M gear of The Tech Editboard.

The mythical Jennifer "Just Do It" DeBoer was elected as the continuing Savior of the Sports section.

Allison "Sugar" Lewis and Jeremy "I'm Dating Arnold Schwarzenegger's Wife" Baskin were elected Arts Island Editors.

"She owns multiple overcoats," a still drunk Collins commented on the choices.

The new Photo Editors are Jonathan "Oracle of Delphi" Wang, Brian "I Like Photography" Hemond, and Noel "Will Schmooze for Free Food" Davis. They vowed to increase the number of masturbation photos by 50 percent.

Lee, who now has all the free pot and beer to him/herself, will remain Features, Fun, and Gadgets Editor.

Roshan "I Will Not Hook Up in the Term Room" Baliga was elected as Technology Director on a platform of abstinence in The Tech office.

Kevin "I'm Not as Old as Frank, But I'm Just as Sexy" Lang declined all nominations and then proceeded to remove himself from his clothing, leaving on only a strange pair of glasses, much to the horror of all females present.

"Take off the glasses, baby!" screamed a crazed Tibrewala.

Rapidly approaching Fogey Status, Aaron "I Ain't Yo Mama" Mihalik and Sandra "Bam!" Chung were chosen as Senior Editors. Chung promised to supply ten-course meals at all Tech functions, while Mihalik threatened to deny all members of Manboard access to The Tech office.

Finally, the old fogies were elected to the Advisory Board of The Tech. Although they had long since passed out because of the length of the meeting (and some possibly from overdoses on Viagra), the following

were elected: B(een There) D(One That) Colen, V. Michael "Junior" Bove, Robert "Hired Gun" Malchman, Joel "Riot in the Streets" Rosenberg, Saul "Desket" Blumenthal, Jonathan "U.S. Certified Genius" Richmond, Barry "NY Times" Surman, Anders "Hussein" Hove, Paul "Indexing Project" Schindler, Satwicksai "Survivor Party" Seshasai, Debby "Token Adboard Female" Levinson, Vladimir "Thumbs Down" Zelevinsky, and Ryan "BBQ" Ochylski.

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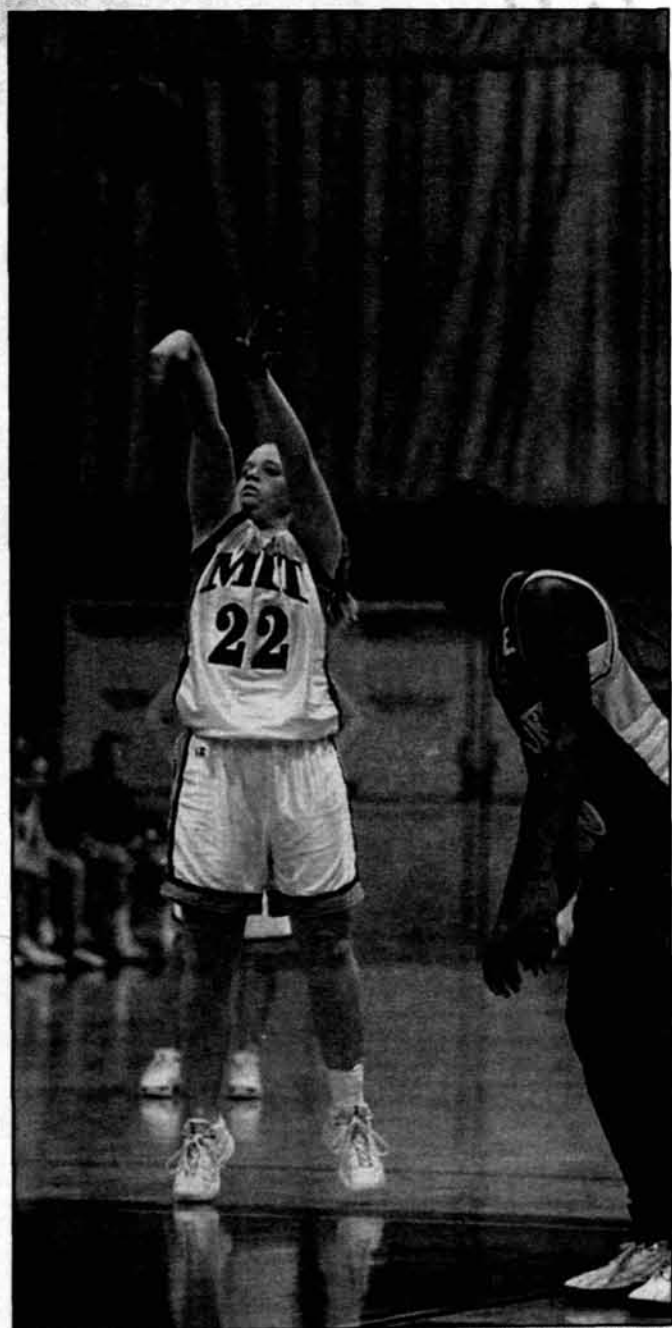
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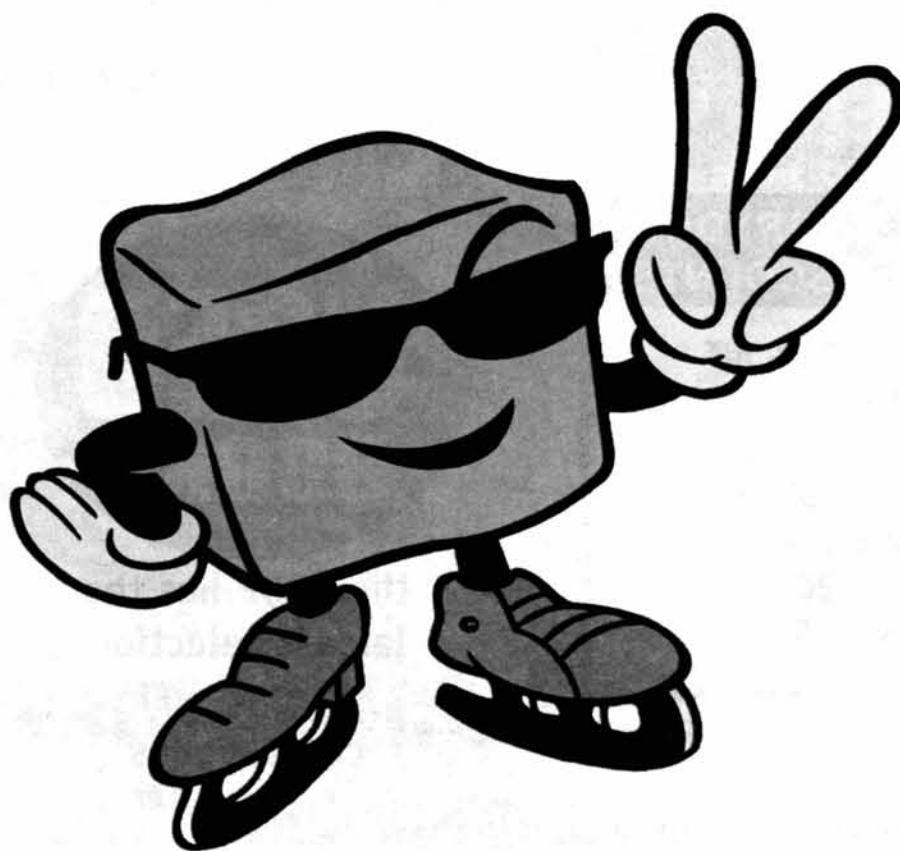
For more information, contact Sunita Schurgin, MD at (617) 724-9027. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



JOHN CLOUTIER—THE TECH

Megan C. Daugherty '03 shoots a free-throw during Monday night's game against Emmanuel College. The final score favored Emmanuel 73-70 putting the Engineers at nine wins and eight losses for this season.

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'Increase Size' Sign Of Spam

Spam, from Page 1

tions, according to the SpamAssassin Web site, <<http://www.spamassassin.org>>.

SpamAssassin is currently installed on all of the MIT post office servers and will work when one downloads mail to their own mail client. "Eventually it will work with webmail," Hunt said.

"If you view the full headers of incoming mail you see numbers. Higher than 7.5 is considered spam," said Matthew K. Belmonte, a member of the Student Information Processing Board.

Those who are unaware of the SpamAssassin installation should not notice any difference in the number of spam e-mails they receive because the filter only works if a separate mailbox or folder is created for spam.

Solution to Crossword

from page 11

S	L	O	W	A	M	A	T	I	E	E	R	O
L	I	N	A	R	U	N	I	N	S	P	A	R
E	T	A	L	A	S	K	E	D	A	I	N	T
P	H	I	L	A	N	T	H	R	O	P	I	C
T	O	R	O	S	R	O	O	E	D	S		
	P	H	I	L	H	A	R	M	O	N	I	C
R	I	B	E	R	I	E	P	A	T	E	R	
A	T	R	A	S	T	R	O	P	S	E	G	O
S	C	A	L	Y	O	D	E	R	R	O	D	
P	H	I	L	O	D	E	N	D	R	O	N	
S	Y	N	G	E	R	T	O	S	C	A		
	P	H	I	L	O	S	O	P	H	I	C	A
A	L	A	I	U	D	A	L	L	S	O	R	T
W	I	N	K	D	E	L	L	A	E	R	T	E
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SEVIS Could Prompt MIT Policy Changes

SEVIS, from Page 1

Stanford will "absolutely not" report details such as changes in classes or small disciplinary events like library fines. This information "was not requested" in the federal guidelines, Pierce said. While being suspended for cheating, for example, might affect immigration status, it would not be reported through SEVIS, he said.

Steiner-Lang noted that there was "some discrepancy with what [the SEVIS] help desk said and the regulations" require be reported. She emphasized only disciplinary actions resulting from criminal convictions are required to be reported.

Dean of Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert has previously said that MIT would report only severe disciplinary problems and only basic registration information. Library fines, for instance, will only matter if they hold up registration, he said.

MIT will "have to review those circumstances that lead to registration status to take into account that registration holds have a very significant effect on international students," Colbert said.

Schools prepared for deadline

MIT was ready for the original

deadline, Colbert said. "We started well ahead of time," he said. "We have the staffing there to make sure that we can comply."

Colbert said that "at the Washington end [of SEVIS] they're not quite there yet." Currently, MIT is capable of submitting the data for individual students one by one or in a batch mode, Colbert said, but the government is not ready to receive files in large groups.

They are "overwhelmed over in Washington and they have an incentive to be reasonable" about delays and bugs in the system, he said.

The process "was time-consuming," and had "its ups and downs" because of changes made by the government, Steiner-Lang said.

She said Washington University had been ready for SEVIS long before the original government deadline of Jan. 30.

Currently, the university offices in charge of SEVIS are entering student data as new students are admitted or as current ones need to enter or leave the country.

Eventually, following the federal deadline, the universities must send the student data for all current international students through SEVIS by Aug. 1.



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Forest City Seeking Variance for Labs Near Sidney-Pacific

By Nathan Collins
NEWS EDITOR

Controversy over a proposed construction project near the Sidney-Pacific graduate residence remains unresolved as the Cambridge Planning Board approaches a decision on the future of 100 Landsdowne Street.

100 Landsdowne was previously planned as a residential building. Forest City Enterprises, which manages the University Park area, requested an amendment last November to allow research space instead of apartments. The plot is located adjacent to Sidney-Pacific.

Jeffrey C. Roberts G, Sidney-Pacific outreach chair, said that developing 100 Landsdowne for biotechnology or other research would hurt the quality of life for graduate students living in the area.

"If you want to try to foster some sense of community" and encourage interaction between MIT and non-MIT residents, more housing would be "better in the long term," he said.

Roberts said that he would like to see more shops and foot traffic in the evening, both to foster community and for safety.

"I think University Park provides a pretty good quality of life" independent of what 100 Landsdowne becomes, said Peter B. Calkins, Forest City's senior vice president for development and planning.

"University Park as a whole is a 24-hour environment," Calkins said. Biotechnology firms at University Park operate well into the evening and there is a significant security presence, he said.

Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert said he was "not willing to say there will be a negative impact." But, he said, "we have to think about what more we can do" to improve the quality of life throughout the northwest part of campus.

MIT Executive Vice President John R. Curry said the Cambridgeport area "needs a lot," including better lighting and amenities.

"We really have nothing concrete right now," Curry said. Curry plans to work with members of the architecture and urban planning programs on how to develop the area intelligently.

The debate over 100 Landsdowne, however, has become largely a legal issue.

In 1999, after Cambridge approved an initial master plan, and in the midst of a review of planning

policies, Cambridge issued an interim planning overlay permit, or IPOP, to Forest City.

The Planning Board is trying to determine whether the IPOP was granted because 100 Landsdowne was planned as a residential building, said Liza Paden, a Planning Board staff member.

At the time of the IPOP, 100 Landsdowne "was planned as a luxury high-rise residential tower," according to Nov. 5 letter from Calkins to Thomas Anninger, the chair of the Cambridge Planning Board.

The letter says that University Park has met its requirements for 150 units of affordable housing, as well as other requirements, and that a research facility would fit in better with existing buildings.

He further argued that the IPOP authorized, but did not require, residential development, and that research space was consistent with existing zoning. He asked that 100 Landsdowne be removed from the permit.

"There was a short discussion" about the implications of the request at the meeting, Paden said, but no final decision was made because one member of the Board could not be present. Roberts said a straw poll suggested that, between the absent member and one undecided member, the vote could go in favor of Forest City's request.

"It seems like the Planning Board is still split," Roberts said.

"People who are pushing for the amendment steered it away from what's best for the area," Roberts said. "That's disappointing to me."

Forest City has indicated it will build housing at 23 Sidney Street, across from the University Park Hotel. Forest City originally planned to develop retail space there. "Given the economy," retail space would not sell well, so a residential building with a first-floor retail component will go there instead, Calkins said.

In a separate Nov. 5 letter to the Planning Board, also regarding 100 Landsdowne, Calkins cited 23 Sidney Street as evidence of Forest City's commitment to residential development at University Park.

The Planning Board will next consider Forest City's request when the full board will be able to meet, on March 4.

MIT, Cambridge Tensions Focus On in Lieu of Taxes Agreement

By Frank Dabek
STAFF REPORTER

As MIT presented its annual town-gown report, Cambridge officials said they want an agreement on payments in lieu of taxes and more information on MIT's future construction.

City Councillor Brian Murphy said that the lack of a signed payment in lieu of taxes agreement "certainly is the biggest stumbling block" in relations between MIT and the city. MIT's 83 acres of commercial property represent about eight percent of the city's tax base.

An agreement that MIT would not shift taxable property to its tax-exempt portfolio or, if it did shift property, would increase payments in lieu of taxes gives the city greater stability as it plans capital projects, Murphy said.

The lack of an agreement makes the city "vulnerable to [MIT's] moves," said Councillor Henrietta Davis.

Executive Vice President John R. Curry, speaking before the Cambridge Planning Board, said that MIT is aware of the city's "impatience" to have an agreement and that he expects a "near term resolution."

Last year MIT gave the city \$1.164 million in lieu of taxes and paid \$15.29 million on its taxable properties. The size of the in-lieu payment has remained relatively unchanged since 1997, when MIT gave the city \$1.102 million.

Future development plans

Davis also raised concerns about the Institute's future development plans. Although the Institute is only required to present the city with any future development it has planned, Davis asked Institute representatives to "give us some of their thoughts" on future developments which may have not reached the formal planning stage.

During his presentation to the board, Curry described a proposed "east campus project" which would redesign the campus of the Sloan School of Management along with the planned Brain and Cognitive Science building.

Deborah W. Poodry, director for capital project development, said that the Sloan buildings are "not in terrific shape" and that "Sloan has always felt they were a little in left field."

Curry also said that the Institute may construct a fine arts center with a "black box theater" and performance rooms. Both the east campus project and fine arts buildings are tentative and waiting for funding. Curry said that MIT plans to rely more on gifts for future construction and that such gifts have not been forthcoming in the current economic climate.

In response to a question from

Planning Board member Pamela Winters, Curry said that MIT had no plans for additional graduate housing in the near future.

Report well received

During his report, Curry touted MIT's impact as an "economic engine" and outlined the Institute's recent addition of the Sidney-Pacific, Warehouse, and Simmons dormitories.

"In general, a lot of what MIT does is positive," Murphy said of the report, and the Institute is "to be applauded" for its efforts to engage the Cambridge community. Local "universities are part of what make Cambridge a great city just as Cambridge makes the universities great."

Davis cited MIT's commitment

to reducing carbon dioxide emissions as a positive contribution of the Institute. An IAP course and UROP student will be studying ways to improve the environment in Cambridge, Davis said.

Cambridge residents in attendance were less generous.

Steven Kaiser called Simmons Hall "one of the ugliest buildings in Cambridge" and said that MIT officials "must have just gone bonkers." He also referred to a low-cost eyeglasses program run by Saul T. Griffith G as a "rare positive product of the Media Lab."

Eli Arden said that he had "gotten to know more grad students than I'd hoped to ever know" after the Sidney-Pacific street dormitory opened near his home.



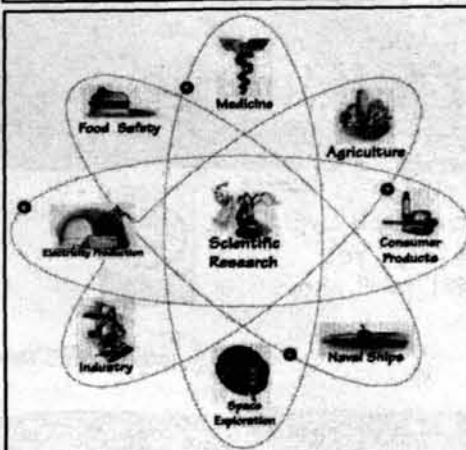
MIT's in lieu of taxes payment (of \$609,705) for 1993 was delivered by three members of the cheerleading squad. The city and MIT are still locked in negotiations over this year's payment.

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